HISTORY OF THE

PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

1915-1990

AS INTERPRETED FROM THE MEETING MINUTES

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6-17-15

The Pacific Coast Numismatic Society began as a preliminary meeting held June 17 1915 at the office of I. Leland Steinman. This was located in the Hooker & Lent Building, 503 Market Street, San Francisco. Mr. Steinman was named Temporary Chairman. Also in attendance were Alfred Twitchell, Basil Brandon, A. Reimers, M. L. Miles, Charles F. Cox, A. C. Nygren, and Farran Zerbe.

Upon motion of Mr. Steinman, seconded by Mr. Reimers, it was unanimously carried that those present desired to form themselves into a permanent organization. Upon Mr. Zerbe's motion, seconded by Mr. Brandon, it was voted that a formal meeting be called for June 24 1915. At this meeting, "By-Laws" and "Rules of Order" would be presented, along with the election of officers and the determination of a name for the organization.

Mr. Steinman announced that he would send out at his own expense notices of the next meeting which was to be held at his office.

6-24-15

Present at the first formal meeting of the group which would become the PCNS were Joseph Barnet, Alfred Twitchell, Rudolph Harmon. Basil Brandon, A.C. Nygren, A. Reimers, H. L. Hill, Fred T. Huddart, Farran Zerbe, and I. Leland Steinman.

Names proposed for the "coin society" included San Francisco Coin Club, Golden West Coin Society, California Numismatic Society, and Pacific Coast Numismatic Society. Mr. Steinman's motion that the latter name be chosen was approved unanimously.

The first elected officers were as follows:

President ---------- Fred T. Huddart
Vice-President ------ Arthur. C. Nygren
Secretary-Treasurer - I. Leland Steinman
Curator ---------- Farran Zerbe
Board of Governors -- A. Reimers
- Basil Brandon
- Alfred Twitchell
- H. L. Hill

NOTE: After the premature death of I. Leland Steinman in the early 1920s, it somehow became tradition that the founder of the PCNS was Farran Zerbe. In reading through the minutes, it becomes evident that Mr. Zerbe's international prominence overshadowed the contributions of Mr. Steinman who deserves at the very least to share this title.

No minutes survive for the second through fifth meetings. However, it was during this period that the American Numismatic Association held its convention August 30 - September 1 at the Hotel Stewart in San Francisco. The principal members of the PCNS figured prominently in this gathering.

9-7-15

Guests at this meeting included the newly elected President of the ANA, H. O. Granberg of Oshkosh, Wisconsin who gave an address and exhibited part of his collection. The rarities exhibited by Mr. Granberg included a half dime of 1802, a quarter dollar of 1823, two 1796 half dollars, an 1804 silver dollar, and an original Confederate half dollar.

Elected Honorary Members were Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Henderson, Past-President of the ANA, as well as F. J. Loer, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar H. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. B. Max Mehl, and H. O. Granberg.

11-16-15

A motion that the PCNS should join the ANA passed unanimously.

NOTE: Early meeting notices were in the form of a handwritten or typed card measuring 3"x 5" and sent out by Mr. Steinman.

1-18-16

Presented to the PCNS by Mr. Zerbe was a Mint bag with seal intact that had contained 1000 Panama Pacific International Exposition commemorative gold dollars.

Mr. Zerbe displayed a complete set of PPIE commemorative coins. This was the 20th set coined and had been struck by Mr. Steinman. The latter purchased this set from Mr. Zerbe at the meeting.

2-29-16

The PCNS now had 15 active members and 8 Honorary Members. Dues became 10 cents per month, effective March 1 1916.

NOTE: Most of this information is taken from the meeting minutes as published monthly in The Numismatist.

3-28-16

Among the better items exhibited were:

A. Reimers --- A collection of Greek tetradrachms of the finest period and in excellent condition.
Farran Zerbe - A complete set of the money used at Sing Sing prison in New York state.

4-27-16

Elected Honorary Members were George H. Barron, Curator of the Park Museum (now the de Young Museum) and T. W. H. Shanahan, Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint.

5-29-16

A noteworthy membership application was that of coin dealer Hugo Landecker.

Honorary Membership was conferred upon Congressman Julius Kahn "in recognition of his able assistance in securing for California the honor of minting the first official $50 gold piece".

Some notable exhibits:

A. C. Nygren ------ A proof specimen of the 1854 Kellogg gold coin.
John Scott Wilson - An uncirculated 1826 half eagle which traded hands at the meeting for $20.
Farran Zerbe ------ New money types generated by the European War.

NOTE: During this period the PCNS was regularly receiving catalogues and price lists from such noted professionals as Henry Chapman, B. Max Mehl, William Hesslein and Lyman Low.

9-27-16

With the Society growing, meetings were now moved to the office of President Huddart in Room 402 of the Board of Trade Building, 444 Market Street.

Mr. Zerbe read an article he had submitted to the San Francisco Examiner rebutting the claim made by the Society of California Pioneers that the United States Treasury would pay $20,000 for its specimen of the 1804 silver dollar.

Secretary Steinman reported that through the courtesy of the Chief Coiner at the San Francisco Mint he had been permitted to view trial strikes of the new Winged Liberty Dime. His opinion of it was very favorable.

10-25-16

This meeting was a banquet held at the Union League Club in San Francisco honoring Farran Zerbe. His job as manager of the PPIE coin program having concluded, he was soon to return to his native Tyrone, Pennsylvania. The banquet was attended by 16 members and one guest.

President Huddart exhibited highlights from his recent purchase of the controversial collection belonging to the Society of California Pioneers. This collection, which Zerbe had stated con-

tained numerous doubtful specimens including an altered 1804 silver dollar, had been on display at the San Francisco Mint during the previous 40 years.

NOTE: In general, exhibits at most meetings during the early years were of U. S. silver and gold coinage. Interest in world numismatics was largely confined to the modern coinages of Great Britain and Northern and Western Europe with an occasional display of ancient coins. Zerbe's departure at the end of 1916 would reinforce this trend.

9-28-17

The PCNS Library began at this meeting with the donation by President Huddart of a bookcase and a large accumulation of numismatic literature. Both were to be placed at the Society's meeting room for the use of all members.

10-30-17

A prominent member was added with the application of Thomas Elder of New York City.

11-30-17

Moritz Wormser of New York City was elected an Honorary Member.

NOTE: Both activity and attendence were down after the enthusiasm exhibited during the Society's first year and a half. Typically, 8 or 9 members were present, with only a couple exhibiting. The most frequent exhibitor during this period was Basil Brandon who always displayed coins of Great Britain. A Recruiting Committee was appointed in an attempt to increase membership.

The meeting location was moved beginning July 1918 to the Russ Building, 235 Montgomery Street.

8-27-18

Mr. Beardslee was empowered to attempt to secure for San Francisco the 1919 convention of the ANA.

Mr. Steinman reported that he had written letters to those PCNS members who had not become members of the ANA encouraging them to do so.

Mr. Zerbe displayed one of the most complete sets of Lesher Referendum Dollars as well as some of the emergency money used during the recent nation-wide cent shortage.

NOTE: Due to extended illness, President Huddart was absent throughout much of 1918.

11-26-18

Despite the war having recently ended, a motion passed that all PCNS members were to be exempt from paying dues while in the armed forces.

NOTE: Auctions were a regular feature of the meetings. One peculiar aspect was that members were expected to bring one or more items to be sold under the following terms: The consignor must specify a reserve. If this is exceeded, the Society's Treasury was to receive 60% of the advance over his reserve.

1-29-19

The death of President Huddart on January 13 led the Society to resolve that a portrait medal be struck in his honor.

A committee consisting of Messrs. Zerbe, Beardslee and Steinman was appointed to write a letter to the Governor of California in reference to a commemorative medal for our returning soldiers and sailors.

NOTE: It is not certain whether anything came out of either resolution. No medal is known bearing a portrait of Mr. Huddart, and no further mention of this plan appears in the minutes.

2-18-19

A motion was passed that members should donate from their duplicates specimens for a numismatic cabinet to be formed by the Society.

The Board of Governors unanimously selected Farran Zerbe to complete the term of the late President Huddart.

3-26-19

Secretary Steinman presented a pen and ink sketch prepared by him for a proposed seal. A motion carried to review this matter at the next meeting.

6-24-19

The Fourth Anniversary Banquet was held at the Hotel Plaza.

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, all meetings and banquets have been held in San Francisco.

7-29-19

The members unanimously adopted an endorsement of the metric system of weights and measures that had been prepared by President Zerbe at the request of the World's Trade Club.

An interesting debate arose over the propect of obsolete paper money being passed on to people in the western part of the country. Apparently, paper money was still an unfamiliar novelty in the West.

Action on the adoption of the proposed seal was again deferred.

8-26-19

The members voted to adopt Farran Zerbe's design for a seal.

11-25-19

An auction of donated numismatic items was held to raise money for the Seal and Die Fund. Nearly $50 was realized.

Mr. Zerbe led a discussion concerning the future of our coinage, as the price of silver had already achieved a level at which the face value of United States coins was equalled by their bullion value.

1-27-20

Victor D. Brenner was elected to Honorary Membership and Wayte Raymond to regular non-resident membership.

2-24-20

Secretary Steinman presented the Society with a plaque donated by its designer, V. D. Brenner.

Elected to Honorary Membership were Howland Wood and Albert R. Frey.

NOTE: During this period, Mr. Zerbe, who had evidently relocated from his Pennsylvania home, was the featured speaker at most meetings.

Throughout the teens and early twenties, the minutes of each meeting were regularly published in The Numismatist, ours being one of the few societies so honored. The published minutes for the meeting of May 25 1920 include an illustration of the Society's new seal, it being the same one in use today. No evidence is found in the minutes to reinforce the speculation that the seal die was engraved by Brenner, although some suggestion of this possibility apparently may be found in the correspondence file.

9-14-20

Mr. Zerbe read a paper advocating a new coin to commemorative peace.

NOTE: This is presumably the same one read before that summer's ANA Convention which did indeed result in the coining of a Peace silver dollar, albeit as a circulating coin.

9-28-20

The Fifth Anniversary Banquet was held at the Hotel Plaza. The banquet room walls were covered with 5000 varieties of paper money from Mr. Zerbe's collection.

12-29-20

An 1804 silver dollar was displayed by member E. S. Rosenblatt. The specimen passed inspection by all present. Mr. Rosenblatt informed the members that his specimen's pedigree was being investigated.

NOTE: Mr. Zerbe's approval of the coin suggests authenticity. If it was indeed authentic, this coin could only have been the "Idler specimen". The pedigree for this example is the only incomplete one. The whereabouts of the Idler specimen is not documented between the time that it was purchased by H. O. Granberg in 1908 and its reappearance in the estate of William C. Atwater in 1940. However, Granberg did display this very coin at the September 7 1915 meeting of the PCNS as described above. Did Messrs. Granberg and Rosenblatt strike a deal sometime between 1915 and 1920?

1-25-21

The Society passed a resolution drawn up by Vice-President Charles B. Turrill stating that Congress and the Mint should issue a coin commemorating the end of the World War.

2-23-21

President Zerbe spoke on the life and work of Gold Rush era engraver Albert Kuner. The latter's son, R. A. Kuner, was a guest at this meeting along with R. A.'s eldest sister, Miss Bertha Kuner.

3-22-21

R. A. and Bertha Kuner were named Honorary Members.

5-17-21

Secretary Steinman gave a presentation on the $4 Stella coinage of 1879-80 and displayed a complete set of them struck in copper.

President Zerbe discussed the new silver dollar coinage and how it differed somewhat from the previous issue of 1878-1904. He offered to the members at face value some specially selected specimens of the "S" Mint 1921 dollars that he had obtained from the Mint.

6-28-21

Honorary Membership was conferred upon Mr. M. J. Kelly, newly appointed Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint.

The Secretary was instructed to notify the San Francisco Examiner that the PCNS was in favor of the proposal to bridge San Francisco Bay.

NOTE: A move to bridge the Golden Gate occupied a great deal of editorial space about this time. The architectural rendering proposed for this project displayed a hideous cantilever structure. For a variety of reasons, this early effort was dropped and not renewed until another dozen years had passed.

7-26-21

Waldo C. Moore was elected to Honorary Membership.

President Zerbe displayed the famous coin which had started his interest in numismatics while a child. The onetime newsboy had been duped into accepting a French 50 centimes coin in payment as a half dollar.

9-20-21

This meeting was a banquet held at Marquard's Cafe.

10-18-21

Formal farewells and humorous gifts were presented to President Zerbe upon his relocation to the East.

3-28-22

The illness and subsequent death of Secretary I. Leland Steinman resulted in the cancellation of the January and February meetings. The March meeting was held at the home of Vice-President Turrill, 57 Sanchez Street, San Francisco. Meetings would be held at this location until further notice.

A guest at this meeting was ANA President Moritz Wormser of New York.

Mr. Frank furnished to the members present specimens of the Alabama Centennial Half Dollar and the 1921 Peace Silver Dollar as per arrangement with the late Secretary Steinman.

NOTE: Following the departure of Mr. Zerbe and the death of Mr. Steinman, attendance at the meetings declined. Typically, 7 to 10 persons would appear. However, nearly all of them exhibited regularly.

The Society also became less ambitious in its enterprises. Gone were the numismatic programs of national scale into which it had entered during the early years. The minutes from 1922-25 mention little other than the items shown.

9-25-23

Norman Shultz was a visitor at this meeting, and Julius Guttag was elected to regular non-resident membership.

1-17-24

This was a special meeting called to greet President Zerbe who had not been able to attend since relocating to the East more than two years previous.

1-23-24

Farran Zerbe was named Honorary President, and a new slate of officers was elected. It was voted that the regular meeting night would henceforth be the last Wednesday of each month. Previously, the Society had met on the last Tuesday.

A discussion ensued regarding the exhibits that various members were to prepare for the first ever National Coin Week.

The membership voiced their disapproval of the proposed circulating 7 and a half cents coin that was to bear the likeness of the late President Harding.

NOTE: An activity that occupied a part of numerous meetings was the sale at auction of coins submitted by guests who had apparently learned of the Society through the local press. Also auctioned were the collections of active or deceased members.

11-19-24

Mentioned at this meeting was the Society's exhibit of Belgian Medals at the Humboldt Bank in San Francisco on Armistice Day.

1-28-25

The PCNS participated in the second National Coin Week by placing exhibits at several banks in San Francisco.

NOTE: The most frequent exhibitors at meetings during this period were Charles Turrill and Louis Goodman.

2-24-26

Discussion centered around members' exhibits placed at various banks around the Bay Area for National Coin Week.

4-28-26

A distribution was made of coins that had been through the fire of 1906. These were sent to the members by Farran Zerbe in memory of that calamity's 20th anniversary.

11-18-26

A new class of membership was created. A "Fellow of the Society" would be elected by the members from time to time "in recognition of research work in numismatics and other such work for the science, as may seem worthy of recognition by the Society".

The first person so recognized was Mr. R. L. Reid of Vancouver, B.C. for his book "The Assay Office and the Proposed Mint at New Westminster".

1-26-27

Farran Zerbe was in attendance after a three-year absence. He exhibited a pedigreed 1804 silver dollar.

Mr. Zerbe was elected a Fellow for his research into Bryan Money as published in the 1926 volume of The Numismatist.

Plans were discussed for National Coin Week.

3-1-27

A dinner was held at the Colonial Hotel in honor of Mr. Zerbe's visit from the East.

5-25-27

After an illness of several months, President Turrill died on 11 May. As the meetings had been held for some years at his home, the meeting for May was relocated to the Hotel Layne, 545 Jones Street.

B. Max Mehl was elected a regular non-resident member.

6-29-27

This and subsequent meetings were held at the YMCA Building.

NOTE: Attendance was up from a few years earlier. 12 to 15 members and one to three guests were typical for meetings at the YMCA.

12-14-27

Mr. O. P. Eklund was elected a Fellow for his work "Copper Coins of Mexico, Central America and South America" as published in The Numismatist.

1-25-28

Discussion centered around exhibits planned for National Coin Week.

ANA President Charles Markus was elected to regular non-resident membership.

3-7-28

The Annual Banquet was held at the Colonial Hotel.

3-28-28

Coin dealer Hugo Landecker was elected to regular membership.

NOTE: Mr. Landecker had previously applied for membership in 1916.

2-27-29

National Coin Week was celebrated with exhibits and press coverage.

3-12-29

The Annual Banquet was held at the Hotel Whitcomb. 20 members were in attendance.

7-31-29

Mr. Rosborough announced his intention to attend the upcoming ANA Convention where he would further the candidacy of PCNS Secretary Harvey L. Hansen for the ANA Board of Governors. He asked that the Society sponsor three resolutions to be presented at the convention:

1. That dealers' charges for auction services were exhorbitant.

2. That prices of American coins should be stabilized.

3. That the ANA be asked to act upon these issues.

The membership declined to sponsor these resolutions. Mr. Rosborough thereupon withdrew as representative of the Society for the convention.

Mr. Zerbe had sent to the members pamphlets describing the new small size U.S. currency that was to be issued that month. An exhibit of the new notes was on display at the Emporium on Market Street.

NOTE: Farran Zerbe had relocated to New York City where he was now the curator of the Chase Manhattan Collection of Money of the World. This collection had previously been Mr. Zerbe's own before being purchased by the bank.

During this period, meetings were fairly simple. The main emphasis seems to have been on exhibiting, with quite a number of rare and unusual items appearing in the minutes. Attendance was up a bit, averaging 15-18 persons.

1-29-30

Following a report from the National Coin Week Committee, it was decided to abandon this observance in favor of a Sunday-only exhibition during the month of April.

The Society was corresponding with the Los Angeles-based California Coin Club, in an effort to secure for that city the 1932 ANA Convention. Not mentioned in the minutes, but an obvious conclusion, is that this was to coincide with the Olympic Summer Games already slated for Los Angeles.

3-12-30

A banquet celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the PCNS was held at the Clift Hotel. 17 members and three guests attended the affair.

4-27-30

An exhibition of numismatics was held at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco and was visited by about 600 people.

7-30-30

A Founder's Dinner was held honoring Farran Zerbe. Mr. Zerbe was in town for the event.

8-27-30

It was announced that Secretary Hansen had been elected to serve as Second Vice-President for the ANA.

10-29-30

Hugo Goldsmith reported that he had to resign from active membership. He was thereupon elected an Honorary Member.

12-10-30

Following the normal business, the members retired to the "Splendid Grill" to enjoy a Christmas party. It was here that Messrs. Wernstrom and Hansen distributed "Farran Zerbe Tokens of Esteem".

NOTE: These were the first medallic issues in conjunction with the PCNS. Apparently not sponsored by the Society itself, these were likely the work of the two distributors.

At year's end, the Society had a total of 52 members.

3-11-31

The Annual Banquet was held at the States Restaurant.

3-25-31

Professor Neil Carothers of Lehigh University was elected a Fellow in recognition of his recently published book "Fractional Money".

5-27-31

In place of the regular meeting, a special program of competitive exhibiting was held. The public was invited, and the displays were mounted at the YMCA Assembly Hall. First place winners were:

G. B. Thompson ------- U. S. Half Dollars
Basil Brandon -------- Coins of Great Britain
Ernest R. Wernstrom -- Paper Money
Harvey L. Hansen ----- War Medals
Ernest R. Wernstrom -- Coin Oddities

9-30-31

It was announced that the ANA had selected Los Angeles as the site for its 1932 convention.

1-27-32

Sydney P. Noe was elected a Fellow in recognition of his work in the field of numismatics.

2-24-32

The regular meeting was devoted to an exhibit in honor of the bicentennial of George Washington's birth. No details appear in the minutes.

4-27-32

A banquet was held at the Hotel Whitcomb commemorating the 200th meeting of the PCNS.

NOTE: No details are furnished regarding the 1932-dated tokens issued to mark this meeting. There is periodic reference on the balance sheet for each meeting to a "Convention and Medal Fund", but the exact meaning of this is obscure. It likely refers to a possible medal for the 1932 ANA Convention. Presumably, the nickel tokens of 1932 were put out by the same individuals responsible for the 1930 issue, Messrs. Wernstrom and Hansen, as they are similar in appearance.

9-28-32

Reports were received from those who had attended the ANA Convention in Los Angeles during the month of August. Among the reports was one by Mr. Wernstrom who had chaired the San Francisco Day Committee. The committee had entertained those numismatists who were passing through the city on their way to Los Angeles. This event was held on the day preceding the opening of the convention and included a tour of the San Francisco Mint.

NOTE: Those touring the Mint wouldn't have seen much. The only only coinage that year had been some half a million quarter dollars coined in the previous month.

1-30-33

Mr. Ed M. Lee was elected a Fellow in recognition of his recently published book "California Gold Quarters, Halves and Dollars".

A traveling exhibit of coins from the collection of the American Numismatic Society was placed on display at the De Young Museum in Golden Gate Park during the month of November. This had been on display at the Los Angeles convention, and its removal to San Francisco was achieved through the efforts of the PCNS.

4-26-33

The Annual Banquet was held at the States Restaurant. Featured was an exhibit of Depression Scrip presented by President Wernstrom.

9-27-33

It was announced that Secretary Hansen had been elected First Vice-President of the ANA.

10-20/22-33

The first Far Western Numismatic Conference was held in San Francisco at the Palace Hotel under the sponsorship of the PCNS. Chaired by President Wernstrom, no specific details are included in the minutes.

NOTE: Attendance at meetings had averaged only 14 in 1933. An aging membership and the Depression appear to have been taking their toll.

4-25-34

The Annual Banquet was held at Kelly's Tavern.

NOTE: At this time, the Society was engaging in a peculiar fund-raising project. Exhibitors at each meeting were charged 25 cents for the privelege. Even more odd was the practice of fining those who failed to fulfill their commitments, such as not having a paper prepared in time to be delivered at a specific meeting. The money raised through this system was used to purchase exhibit cases for the Far Western Numismatic Conference. These cases were also used by members at the regular meetings which would account for the 25 cent charge.

9-26-34

It was announced that President Wernstrom had begun a series of articles on numismatic happenings that would be a recurring feature in the San Francisco Chronicle.

10-31-34

In anticipation of the 20th Anniversary of the PCNS and the upcoming second Far Western Numismatic Conference, both to be celebrated in 1935, a Special Fund Committee was appointed. Donation blanks were distributed, and it was asked that the members contribute as their means would permit.

In response to the ongoing debate over whether to admit junior members to the PCNS, a Junior Coin Society was being formed as a separte entity under the direction of President Wernstrom.

NOTE: The actual name of this group when formally assembled was the Junior Coin Collectors of San Francisco.

2-27-35

Earl A. Parker elected to membership.

7-31-35

Visiting at this meeting was a Mr. Hooper, the first Vice-President of the ANA. He gave a lengthy address to the Society.

NOTE: The PCNS was in continual contact with two groups at this time: the California Coin Club, based in Los Angeles, and the JCCSF mentioned above. Members of these clubs were frequent guests at PCNS meetings.

10-30-35

President Wernstrom advised the members that the YMCA would be needing the Society's meeting room and that after the December meeting the PCNS would have to relocate.

NOTE: Beginning January 29 1936, PCNS meetings were held at the Hotel Whitcomb, 1231 Market Street, for the next several years with only occasional relocations.

NOTE: Attendance was up during 1935, averaging 15 to 18 members plus guests.

11-20-35

Rules for the auctioning of numismatic items were established. The Society would receive a commission on each sale. Appointed to the Auction Committee were Messrs. Webb, Jakobsen and Knabenschuh.

President Wernstrom spoke regarding the desirability of inducing the ANA to have its 1938 convention in San Francisco in conjunction with the Golden Gate International Exposition. A committee was appointed toward this end consisting of Messrs. Wernstrom, Hansen, Wyman, Hoffman and Hill.

Mr. D. C. Wismer of Hatfield, Pennsylvania was elected a Fellow in recognition of his "Descriptive List of Obsolete Paper Money" published in The Numismatist.

12-11-35

The death of Mrs. Basil Brandon was announced.

NOTE: This would account for the absence since January 1934 of longtime member Mr. Brandon. Presumably, his wife had been ailing for some time. He was again present at the January 1936 meeting.

2-26-36

The Convention Committee announced the postponement of the GGIE until 1939 and advised a similar move for their proposal regarding an ANA convention in San Francisco.

4-29-36

The Annual Banquet was held at the White and Gold Room of the Hotel Whitcomb.

5-27-36

ANA District Secretary Wernstrom was called upon to lay plans for the third Far Western Numismatic Conference, to be held in the Fall.

President Wyman reported on his work with the De Young Museum and announced that its coin collection would soon be on exhibit again.

A Commemorative Coin Committee was appointed with Charles Knabenschuh as Chairman.

NOTE: There was much correspondence generated by the boom in commemorative issues that occurred 1935-37. The PCNS frequently received letters advising its members of new issues and soliciting sales. The CCC was a clearinghouse for this information and Mr. Knabenschuh, as the Society's most enthusiastic collector of these coins, was the logical choice for chairing it.

7-22-36

This was a special occasion marking the 250th meeting of the PCNS and honoring the visit to San Francisco of Mr. and Mrs. Farran Zerbe. It was attended by members, wives and guests "too numerous to list". The meeting room was decorated with memorabilia from the Society's past.

Mr. Webb presented a gavel to the Society to be used at meetings.

Mr. Brandon welcomed the Zerbes on behalf of the Charter Members of the PCNS.

President Wyman presented a token to Mr. Zerbe commemorating the occasion.

NOTE: This token is presumably the brass piece known for the 250th meeting.

11-18-36

Jacques Schnier, creator of the Bay Bridge half dollar, was elected to Honorary Membership.

4-28-37

The Annual Banquet was held at the Riviera Cafe.

A motion passed that the PCNS would go on record against the supporting of any individual commemorative coin. Its policy regarding future commemorative issues would be one of judging each proposal on the basis of merit and demand.

NOTE: The above resolution is a little confusing, but it does indicate a growing disenchantment with the much abused program of commemorative coinage. This entire subject, both pro and con, had occupied much of the Society's attention during the previous two years.

5-26-37

Meetings resumed their former location at the YMCA.

Messrs. Wernstrom and Knabenschuh told of their experiences at the recent dedication of the new San Francisco Mint.

9-29-37

This meeting was relocated to the San Francisco Museum of Art.

Mr. Wernstrom was congratulated by President Knabenschuh on his election to the Second Vice-Presidency of the ANA.

10-27-37

This and subsequent meetings returned to the Hotel Whitcomb.

1-26-38

The death on January 23 1938 of Ernest Wernstrom was announced. He was eulogized as one of the most active members.

2-23-38

Secretary Hansen announced that he had been appointed by ANA President J. Henry Ripstra to complete Mr. Wernstrom's term as Second Vice-President.

Secretary Hansen gave a brief report on the fourth Far Western Numismatic Conference held in San Diego that month.

Roy Hill was appointed counsellor for the Junior Coin Collectors of San Francisco, succeeding the late Mr. Wernstrom.

4-17-38

The Annual Banquet was held at the Ritz Restaurant.

The following were elected Fellows: Arthur C. Wyman, Ernest R. Wernstrom and Harvey L. Hansen. The first two elections were posthumous.

As the only remaining active Charter Member of the PCNS, Basil Brandon was elected an Honorary Member.

11-16-38

Mary M. O'Reilly, retiring Assistant Director of the Mint, was elected an Honorary Member.

1-25-39

One of the guests at this meeting was a Lieutenant Dodson of the U.S.S. Vincennes.

NOTE: This was likely Oscar H. Dodson, future ANA President.

3-29-39

Elected Fellows were Dr. A. F. Pradeau of Los Angeles, Mr. Weston Settlemier of San Francisco and Messrs. David M. Bullowa and William L. Clark of New York.

6-28-39

Among the guests present were Norman Shultz of Salt Lake City and Clifford Bloom.

NOTE: The latter was then a member of the Junior Coin Collectors of San Francisco and would later become President of the PCNS.

10-25-39

Mr. Hill spoke on the exhibit placed by the JCCSF at the Golden Gate International Exposition that month.

During a discussion regarding the status of the various books and catalogues belonging to the PCNS, Mr. R. A. Webb offered a portion of his office to be used as library space while a permanent site was sought. He then proposed that the office of Librarian be added by amendment to the PCNS Constitution.

NOTE: At the end of 1939, the membership included 55 active and 9 non-resident members.

1-31-40

Mr. Fogler outlined a plan for a 25th Anniversary booklet.

3-27-40

A Library Fund was established.

The Society of California Pioneers reported that some of the PCNS's medals had been located among the effects of the late Charles Turrill donated to the Pioneers. These were returned to the PCNS.

NOTE: The minutes from these 1940 meetings include complete Librarian's reports of new acquisitions. It appears that this was the first truly systematic building of the PCNS Library.

4-24-40

The 25th Anniversary Banquet was announced for June 29 1940.

A medal celebrating this event would be priced at $3, and members were urged to subscribe.

In a discussion of the past few years' programs, a general dissatisfaction was expressed. It was suggested that the members be polled by mail to determine what they wanted to hear and what they themselves could offer.

Ralph Mitchell reported that the Far Western Numismatic Conference would not be held that year.

NOTE: No further mention of such gatherings appears after 1940.

5-29-40

It was voted to present Founder Farran Zerbe with one of the 25th Anniversary medals.

NOTE: No details regarding the place of manufacture or the quantity coined of these silver medals are to be found in the minutes.

No minutes are available for the meetings of June and July of 1940. The first was to have been the 25th Anniversary Banquet at the Hotel Riviera. It was anticipated that Mr. Zerbe would be in town. The July meeting was to feature a United States Secret Service film "Know Your Money".

9-25-40

A discussion ensued regarding the balance due for the anniversary medals. Several members volunteered to lend $10 each to the Society until such time that the remaining medals were sold.

10-30-40

With Librarian Richard Webb away on extended military service, it was reported by Mr. Fogler that the Society's growing library

was securely locked in Mr. Webb's office. It was decided to leave it there until the Society chose to take further action.

11-19-40

Mr. Fogler detailed the terms under which library books were stored and would be lent to members.

12-11-40

In a rare instance of a contested election, Edward Fogler was named by the Nominating Committee for the office of Secretary-Treasurer, whereupon Harvey L. Hansen, longtime holder of this office, was nominated from the floor. The voting was tied at 7 apiece. Mr. Hansen, holding a proxy from Mr. Hicks, then cast the deciding vote in his own favor and was declared elected.

1-29-41

President Earl A. Parker read a letter of resignation from an absent Secretary Hansen. Declining to appoint a successor, Mr. Hansen suggested instead that a special election be held to fill the vacancy. He also appointed Mr. Redfield to act as temporary Secretary.

President Parker then asked for nominations from the floor. As Mr. Fogler was the only nominee, he was declared elected. Using Mr. Knabenschuh as his agent, the absent Mr. Hansen relinquished to the new Secretary all records and funds belonging to the PCNS.

An address by the newly elected Secretary emphasized harmony and good fellowship.

NOTE: After this tense incident, Harvey Hansen was noticeably absent from subsequent meetings. He died in 1953.

Mr. Redfield suggested that the business portion of each meeting be shortened so as to provide more time for programs.

NOTE: This comment renewed the ongoing concern of the members over weak or non-existant programs. It may have been prompted in part by the unpleasant Hansen-Fogler affair.

2-26-41

Program Chairman Mr. Rock outlined a tentative schedule of programs for the coming year.

A resolution was passed that the Society would expel from membership any person found guilty of fraudulent numismatic activities.

NOTE: There is no evidence in the minutes to suggest that this resolution was prompted by a particular incident.

3-26-41

Librarian-Curator Roy Hill reported that he had received from Secretary Fogler all of the library material previously stored in the office of former Librarian Webb. The library was again accessible to members.

Mr. Knabenschuh reported that the previous meeting's auction had netted $9.68 for the Medal Fund.

NOTE: The PCNS was evidently still in debt from its 1940 medal.

Reports were received from individual members on their National Coin Week displays.

It was voted to have printed in booklet form the Constitution and By-Laws of the PCNS. This booklet would include a membership directory and would be paid for in part through the soliciting of advertisements.

NOTE: After years of relative inactivity, the PCNS was again becoming prominent. The number of visitors to its meetings increased, and the extent of their travel did likewise. At the forefront of the renewed activity were Messrs. Fogler, Hill, Redfield and Rock.

5-23-41

This meeting was held in conjunction with that of the Junior Coin Collectors of San Francisco.

6-25-41

The Annual Banquet was held at the Hotel Whitcomb. 39 members and guests were in attendance.

7-30-41

Mr. Rock resigned by letter as Program Chairman, having recently relocated to St. Paul, Minnesota.

President Parker reported that all bills for the 25th Anniversary medal had been paid.

Mr. B. Morgenthau of New York was elected a Fellow. Honorary Membership was conferred upon Mr. P. J. Haggerty, Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint.

8-27-41

Upon motion of Mr. Knabenschuh, the Society voted to buy a $25 U. S. Defense Bond.

9-24-41

Mr. Richard Webb was again present after military leave, and he remarked that the Society was functioning well.

Secretary Fogler announced that it was not possible to buy United States Defense Bonds in an amount of less than $100.

NOTE: 26 members and 16 guests were present at this meeting. Although this was an extreme example, attendance was generally quite high during 1941-43 and included numerous guests.

10-29-41

Secretary Fogler reminded the members that a donation box had been placed on the table to assist in defraying expenses.

12-10-41

This meeting was held at the Dixy Dixon Restaurant in San Francisco, as had been agreed to at the November meeting.

The nomination and election of officers for 1942 dominated the meeting. It was followed by a light supper.

NOTE: Coming only three days after the attack at Pearl Harbor, this must have been a somewhat somber gathering. It would likely have been held amidst the nightly blackout that was in effect during the immediate post-attack period. No direct reference to recent events may be found in the minutes. However, it is noted that each of the newly elected officers spoke briefly to thank the members and to express their hopes "for a better year to come".

All things considered, 1941 was a banner year for the PCNS. Twelve new members were elected and none were lost. In addition, the Society was able to nearly double its year-end cash balance.

1-28-42

Mr. Frank G. Duffield, editor of The Numismatist, was elected a Fellow.

The members voted to purchase $100 worth of U. S. Defense Bonds.

3-25-42

Secretary Fogler read a telegram from President Stanley Blois in which he stated that he would be unable to attend on account of special defense work.

Following a program by Messrs. Schulz and Kraft on the subject of Greek and Roman coins, a quiz was conducted by Secretary Fogler on general numismatic topics. Correct answers were rewarded with U. S. Defense Stamps. As this activity was enthusiastically received, it was decided to hold such a quiz at every meeting.

4-29-42

It was reported that a number of members were in arrears for their dues. The Membership Committee was instructed to drop from membership those who were several years delinquent.

5-27-42

Among the reports received from members was that of Mr. Elias who spoke on the latest activities at the San Francisco Mint.

NOTE: Mr. Elias was evidently an employee of the Mint, as he detailed its activities at several meetings.

9-30-42

It was moved that the Society should collect all mutilated coins to be turned over to the government for war uses. Secretary Fogler donated a large glass jar partly filled with coins. Mr. Lenker was appointed by President Blois to act as Chairman for this committee.

Mr. James Richards, Warrant Officer of Moffett Field at Sunnyvale, was introduced. An employee of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Mr. Richards gave a talk on the Bureau's wartime activities.

Mr. Elias announced that the Mints had begun coining new five cent pieces with an emergency wartime composition. He described this new coinage and told of its distinguishing features.

10-28-42

Upon motion of Mr. Redfield, it was voted to waive for the duration of their service the dues of all PCNS members who were in the Armed Forces. At the time, these included Messrs. McKie, Osborne, Webb, Helgesen and Lenker. The members were encouraged to write to their fellows in uniform as often as possible.

NOTE: Of the above, only Mr. Lenker was able to continue attending meetings.

Mr. Hill displayed a new acquisition in his latest hobby of collecting Mint bags, a Philadelphia Mint bag of 1941 overprinted with the 1942 date.

NOTE: Could this bag have contained 1942/1 dimes?

12-16-42

Retiring PCNS President Blois was elected a Fellow.

NOTE: Meeting notices were still in the form of a post card, a practice initiated by I. Leland Steinman in 1915.

At year's end, the PCNS showed a net gain of 14 members for a total of 69.

1-27-43

A letter from the U. S. Mint was read informing the Society that proof coinage was being discontinued for the duration.

3-31-43

Secretary Fogler reported that the JCCSF were inactive on account that most of its members and officers were in the Army. Of these, Lt. Salz, the group's first Secretary, had been killed in North Africa. Following a silent tribute, it was voted to invite the Juniors to attend PCNS meetings for the duration.

In recognition of his untiring efforts to improve the quality and extent of the Society's programs, Ralph A. Mitchell was elected a Fellow.

5-26-43

The PCNS Library received a donation of 30 volumes of the United States Mint Director's Report dating through 1930 from Mr. Brandon.

The members voted to nominate Mr. Mitchell for the office of Second Vice-President of the ANA.

6-30-43

In place of the Annual Banquet, a pot luck buffet was served at the regular meeting place, the Hotel Whitcomb.

Mr. William Kraft, a longtime member, was elected a Fellow.

8-25-43

The PCNS joined the Oregon Numismatic Society and other coin clubs in urging that the ANA invest at least 80% of its idle funds in U. S. Defense Bonds.

Librarian Hill suggested that the PCNS place notices of its monthly meetings at the various servicemen's clubs.

Secretary Fogler introduced Robert G. Schmidt, former Vice-President of the Junior Coin Collectors of San Francisco, now serving in the Army Air Corps.

9-23-43

The Society voted to buy a second $100 Defense Bond.

Mr. Harry Cutler displayed his recent acquisition of the original dies for the Kellogg & Co. $50 gold slug dated 1855 and an example of the coin. The dies were to be loaned to the Society of California Pioneers for display.

Secretary Fogler announced that Mr. Mitchell had been elected Second Vice-President of the ANA.

NOTE: No minutes are available for October and November of 1943.

4-26-44

Secretary Fogler reported on various members' activities for National Coin Week.

A motion was passed that the PCNS go on record as supporting the efforts of ANA President Martin Kortjohn to have commemorative silver dollars issued.

NOTE: No minutes are available for May of 1944 through January of 1945.

2-28-45

Mr. Joseph B. Stack was elected to membership.

Mr. Mitchell announced that the ANA had cancelled its convention for 1945.

3-28-45

It was voted to permanently relocate the PCNS Library to the Secretary's office at 406 Sutter Street.

As the World Conference (establishing the United Nations) was to be held in San Francisco during April and May, the meetings for those months would have to be relocated from the Hotel Whitcomb to another site. Members would be notified by mail.

NOTE: No minutes are available for April, May and June of 1945. As March was the 351st meeting and July the 354th, one of these months must not have included a meeting.

7-25-45

This meeting was relocated to the home of Mr. and Mrs. George B. Megibben, 309 27th Avenue.

Major Richard Webb, having just returned from the European Theatre of the war, gave a presentation on his travels and experiences.

NOTE: No meeting was held during August of 1945.

9-26-45

This and subsequent meetings for the next several months were relocated to the Women's City Club.

It was reported that Mr. Mitchell had moved to the East and gone into business there. Secretary Fogler expressed regret that the PCNS had lost such an active member.

The Secretary reported important donations to the PCNS Library from Messrs. B. Morgenthau and A. Kosoff.

NOTE: Mr. Morgenthau of New York City frequently made donations to the Society's Library during the 1940's. Mr. Kosoff, then conducting his business in New York, would soon relocate to California and become very active in the PCNS.

No minutes are available for October and November of 1945.

2-27-46

Secretary Fogler was presented by the members with a Life Membership in the ANA and a gold pen and pencil set in appreciation of his outstanding efforts on behalf of the Society.

3-27-46

Mr. Mitchell gave a presentation on "Odd and Curious Media of Exchange". President Redfield then wished him good luck on his relocation to Bakersfield.

NOTE: Mr. Mitchell had been present at several recent meetings, having evidently concluded his business in the East.

Attendance was good around this time. Typcially, 20 members and 5-9 guests were present.

5-29-46

Meetings returned to the Hotel Whitcomb.

7-31-46

The members empowered President Redfield and Secretary Fogler to submit the Society's invitation to the ANA to hold its 1949 convention in San Francisco. This event would be timed to mark the centennial of the Gold Rush.

8-28-46

Abe Kosoff was elected to regular membership.

NOTE: Mr. Kosoff had frequently donated books and catalogues to the PCNS Library during the previous few years.

9-25-46

Secretary Fogler read a letter from Mr. Lloyd Gettys in which he thanked the Society for electing him a Fellow.

NOTE: No mention of this election appears in the minutes during 1946.

Librarian Freeman outlined his plans for an Encyclopedia that the Society had been contemplating.

NOTE: From the information available, it seems that this was to be a looseleaf scrapbook of numismatic trivia.

A resolution was adopted to admit Junior members (18 years of age) who had been endorsed by at least one parent and by another member of the PCNS. Upon reaching the age of 21, such persons would then become active members.

Mr. Hill announced his plans to reactivate, with the assistance of Mr. Bloom, the Junior Coin Collectors of San Francisco, dormant since the war.

NOTE: The PCNS showed a net gain during 1946 of 20 regular members and two Fellows. One was the aforementioned Mr. Gettys; the identity of the other cannot be ascertained from the minutes.

1-29-47

Vice-President Hecht reported that the campaign for the creation of a half dollar to commemorate the centennial of the Gold Rush was not going well.

NOTE: This initiative appears to have originated outside of the PCNS but was supported by the Society.

2-26-47

President Redfield gave a report on the meeting held February 22 of the newly formed California State Numismatic Association. The meeting had taken place in Santa Barbara and had been attended by Messrs. Redfield, Fogler and Hill.

3-26-47

The Society nominated Secretary Fogler as a candidate for the ANA Board of Governors.

The program at this meeting was a talk by Mr. Ruge of the San Francisco Mint on coining methods used at that facility.

For the second year in a row, the PCNS mounted a display at Wells Fargo Bank in celebration of National Coin Week. Further activities included a broadcast by Secretary Fogler from radio station KGO in San Francisco.

4-20-47

The PCNS voted to apply for corporate membership in the CSNA.

5-21-47

This meeting had been moved up a week to allow Mr. Kosoff of New York to be present.

The Society voted to nominate Mr. Mitchell for the office of First Vice-President of the ANA.

The program was a talk and display by Mr. Kosoff of numerous rarities. These included the following:

Rare U.S. patterns, including a set of Stellas
A set of large cents, including both varieties of 1799
Proof half cents from the Pierce Collection
A 1794 silver dollar
Gold patterns of Holland
Russian coins in platinum

Displays by the members included an 1894-S dime brought by Vice-President Hecht.

7-23-47

George N. Blake, ANA Treasurer and 25-year member of the PCNS, was elected a Fellow.

A program was presented by noted scholar of Chinese numismatics the Reverend Arthur B. Coole. He spoke of his childhood discovery of coins, his meetings with prominent persons and the publishing of his book "Coins in China's History".

8-27-47

A total of 25 members and 27 guests were present for a round table discussion of world crowns.

NOTE: This large attendance level reflected an ongoing trend. To accomodate this growth, the Society relocated its meetings to a more spacious room.

10-29-47

This and subsequent meetings for most of the next 30 years were held at the Palace Hotel, Market and New Montgomery Streets.

The Society voted to apply for membership in the American Numismatic Society.

12-17-47

In a rare example of a contested election, Charles Steele defeated Jack Hecht for the office of President by a single vote. In the Vice-Presidential race, Roy Hill won over Henry Sutliff Jr. by a vote of 19-14. The offices of Secretary/Treasurer and Librarian were won without challenge. This contested race seems to have been concluded without the hard feelings evident in 1941.

2-25-48

The PCNS Library was again to be relocated, this time to space donated by Mr. Parker.

The PCNS had created a Members' Bulletin, and this was sent out in place of the post cards used previously.

NOTE: It is apparent that much signifigant information published in these Bulletins has been omitted from the minutes. Certain conclusions can therefore only be inferred rather than substantiated in this text.

The publication of a magazine type Bulletin coincided with the Society's decision to seek the ANA's 1949 Convention and reflects its growing feeling of confidence.

3-31-48

A total of 24 persons were elected to membership at this meeting, and 20 new applications were to be voted upon the following month.

NOTE: The post-war hobby boom was really hitting its stride. However, in examining the list of names, it is evident that the new members did not necessarily feel a great commitment to numismatics, as they are nearly all unknown to this writer in 1989. The few exceptions include Sam Kabealo, Charles Ruby and Kenneth Lee.

4-28-48

President Steele appointed several persons to serve on convention committees should the ANA select San Francisco as the site for its 1949 gathering. Edward Fogler was named General Chairman.

Notable names among the new members include Dan Brown, Leonel Panosh and Norman Shultz.

5-26-48

A newly drafted Constitution and By-Laws was unanimously adopted.

Elected to membership was Calvert Emmons, M.D., first President of the CSNA.

6-23-48

The tradition of an Annual Banquet was resumed after the wartime hiatus. This year's was held at El Jardin Restaurant, with 47 members and guests in attendance. Oddly enough, the guests included former Heavyweight Champion boxer Tom Sharkey and his manager, Bill Miller. The two entertained the gathering with their reminiscenses.

In recognition of his outstanding service over many years, William Kraft was made an Honorary Member.

Among the displays were a complete set of PPIE coins by Mrs. Cutler and a group of uncirculated U.S. coins donated to the Society by Joseph Stack of New York. The latter were to be auctioned at the July meeting.

7-28-48

President Steele appointed Mr. Kosoff to present the Society's bid to the ANA to hold its 1949 convention in San Francisco.

Among the guests at this meeting was Cornelius Vermeule of New York.

NOTE: Mr. Vermeule later authored several works including the landmark "Numismatic Art in America".

9-29-48

It was announced that the ANA had awarded its 1949 convention to San Francisco and the PCNS.

H.F. Bowker and Roy Hill were elected Fellows for their work on Chinese coins and Finnish coins, respectively.

Mr. Parker exhibited an 1894-S dime.

10-27-48

Featured was PCNS member, coin dealer and President of the Los Angeles Coin Club, Sam Kabealo. After conducting the auction, Mr. Kabealo gave a talk on "Coin Sales and Taxes". This was followed by a discussion which resulted in the appointment of Messrs. Parker, Hecht and Kabealo to draft a letter to the ANA. This letter would seek the Association's assistance in repealing the sales tax on coins.

12-15-48

Aubrey E. Bebee was elected to membership.

NOTE: Nearly one hundred new members were acquired during 1948.

1-26-49

A total of 45 members and 9 guests were present at this meeting.

NOTE: Henceforth, the names of those in attendance were not listed in the minutes. The above figures make further explanation unnecessary.

3-30-49

A letter of resignation as President was received from Mr. Webb. Active military duty on Wednesday nights precluded his attending the meetings. In accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws, Vice-President Roy Hill assumed the office of President, his successor to be named at the next meeting.

Mr. Bloom presented the Society's plans for observing National Coin Week.

4-27-49

Among the guests at this meeting was Rudy Gjurovich, President of the Todo Dinero Numismatic Association (later to become the San Jose Coin Club).

Another guest was George B. Gillin, Superintendent of the San Francisco Mint. Mr. Gillin introduced the General Foreman of the Press and Coin Rooms, George C. Ruge, who gave a talk on the operations of the Mint. He described its innovation of the dual press, a wartime productivity measure that had since been adopted at the nation's other Mints.

NOTE: Mr. Ruge had previously spoken at a PCNS meeting in 1947.

8-17-49

This meeting was moved up two weeks so that the members could receive last minute instructions regarding the ANA Convention, due to open at the Palace Hotel on the 21st.

Being so close to the convention date, this meeting included among the out-of-town visitors B. Max Mehl and Oscar H. Dodson.

Mr. Gillin, introduced at the April meeting, was elected an Honorary Member.

9-28-49

President Hill announced that a plaque was to be placed October 31 by the Society of California Pioneers marking the location of the first U.S. Branch Mint at San Francisco. In conjunction with this event, the PCNS was permitted a display case in Portsmouth Square for a period of 3-4 weeks. Display space was also being provided in the Wells Fargo Bank Museum for a rotating exhibit.

10-26-49

This meeting was relocated to the Auditorium of the James F. Waters Company per its invitation. As the company was offering this facility free of charge and the premises were found to be quite satisfactory, the members agreed to continue meeting at this location.

NOTE: Beginning about this time, the evening's program and exhibits preceded the business portion of each meeting. This practice had been initiated in January by President Webb as a consequence of several speakers being unable to present their programs due to the lateness of the hour.

As a result of moving to the Waters Company Auditorium, many programs during this period consisted of instructional films borrowed for the occasion.

Beginning with the new year of 1950, meetings of the Board of Governors were detached from the regular monthly meetings. The former were now held the second Wednesday of each month at the officers' and Board members' homes, on a rotating basis.

1-11-50

In Board action, the recently deceased Farran Zerbe was awarded membership number 1. As it was the practice at this time to reissue the numbers of deceased or inactive members, it was decided that Mr. Zerbe's number would remain his in perpetuity.

A motion was passed that any Board member who missed more than two consecutive meetings without just caused would be replaced by a new member nominated from the floor.

2-17-50

An ongoing debate over the expense of putting out the magazine format Bulletin was renewed. Attempts at making the publication self-supporting through advertising revenue had not been successful.

Further debate arose regarding the Society's meeting place. The Waters & Co. Building on Van Ness Avenue was being utilized primarily because the Society could not afford the $180 annual rent needed to resume meetings at the Palace Hotel. Further objections to the Palace included the hotel management's practice of dishonoring the Society's reservation whenever more lucrative conventions were booked.

3-29-50

Arthur M. Kagin was admitted to membership.

Among the presentations was one on the stone money of Yap by Navy Captain Oscar H. Dodson.

6-28-50

The Society's 35th Anniversary was celebrated with a banquet at the Lucca Restaurant. An invited guest was George Ruge of the San Francisco Mint. Mr. Ruge was an occasional visitor and speaker at the Society's meetings.

8-9-50

The Board chose not to return a ballot in the upcoming ANA elections. This was due to the controversy then dividing certain ANA members and the Association's officers.

NOTE: The exact cause of this dispute is not entirely clear from the minutes, but it seems to have had some connection to the recent expulsion from the ANA of respected coin and book dealer Frank Katen.

10-25-50

This and subsequent meetings were relocated to the Palace Hotel.

1-31-51

Due to the Korean War, one of the Society's members, Russel C. Merrit, had been called back to active duty. As in two previous wars, the Society voted to carry him as a member for the duration and waive his dues.

It was pointed out by Treasurer Lodge that the Bulletin was operating at a deficit of $7.40 monthly. More vigorous efforts to secure advertising and to follow up on payment for same was urged.

NOTE: The practice of having Board meetings at members' homes had apparently become unpopular or impractical. The Board meeting for this month was held following the general meeting at 10:00 PM!

2-28-51

Among the guests was Charles Kappen, then President of the San Jose Coin Club.

A discussion of whether to change the name of the Society was tabled pending an article on the subject to be published in the March Bulletin.

Two officers of the San Francisco Mint, George Ruge, Press Room Foreman and George B. Gillen, Superintendent were named Honorary Members.

NOTE: Following an action at the January Board meeting, such meetings for this and subsequent months would be held immediately preceding the regular membership meeting and would commence at 7:00 PM. This practice has continued to the present day.

3-28-51

In response to requests that the Society's name be changed to reflect its mostly local membership, a motion was passed that proposed alternative names be published in the April Bulletin and that such proposals be voted upon at the April general meeting.

4-25-51

A motion to change the name of the Society failed to pass.

5-23-51

Longtime members H. L. Hill, John Rausch and Grant P. Hatch were elected Honorary Members.

The Annual Banquet was waived in favor of a more substantial Christmas party.

7-25-51

In order to facilitate exhibiting by members at meetings, four lamps had been purchased. It was agreed that the Society should also procure five exhibit cases.

10-31-51

Lewis M. Reagan, longtime General Secretary of the ANA, was elected a Fellow.

NOTE: The frenzied growth evident just three years earlier had slowed dramatically. The Society typically received one or two new applications per month, resulting in a net growth of about half a dozen members annually. Attendance at meetings averaged 25 to 30 members and 5 to 10 guests during 1951-52.

The activities of the Society during these years were limited to featuring a speaker (usually a regularly attending member), presenting round table exhibits and holding an auction (with Earl Parker calling).

11-19-52

Due to difficulty with the printer, the Bulletin was not issued this month. Debate over whether to continue its publication ran to some length, whereupon it was decided to table the matter until the following month's meeting.

12-17-52

The matter of continuing the Bulletin was further postponed until the January meeting.

1-28-53

Correspondence from longtime member Frederick J. Hart indicated that he wished to be dropped from membership, as he could not attend meetings. It was thereupon voted to make him an Honorary Member.

Discussion of the Bulletin situation continued.

2-25-53

It was agreed to submit an invitation to the CSNA to hold its Spring 1954 convention at San Francisco in observance of the centennial of operations at the San Francisco Mint.

NOTE: No further mention of the Bulletin appears in the minutes. As the last issue in magazine format was published in October 1952, the matter seems to have been closed.

4-29-53

It was announced that the CSNA had accepted the Society's invitation to host its Spring 1954 convention.

6-24-53

Light refreshments were served at the regular meeting place in lieu of the Annual Banquet. No formal gathering had been held since 1950.

A motion was passed to make new San Francisco Mint Superintendent Ross P. Buell an Honorary Member.

9-30-53

A discussion of recent auction sales and price trends was led by Abe Kosoff who was attending his first meeting after an absence of several years.

10-28-53

A presentation on ancient coins was given by Edward Gans. Mr. Gans had recently relocated to Berkeley.

Among the guests was former ANA President M. Vernon Sheldon who was touring the country following his visit to the ANA Convention at Dallas.

11-18-53

A record 24 exhibitors spoke at this meeting.

NOTE: Attendance was also creeping upward, 30 to 35 members and 5 to 15 guests being common.

During 1953 and through early 1954 there was much discussion at meetings of the upcoming CSNA Convention.

2-24-54

A record attendance was set with 46 members and 16 guests being present of whom 23 exhibited.

3-31-54

The guest speaker was a Past-President of the Archaeological Society of California. His topic, "The Archaeological Aspects of Ancient Coins", was illustrated by projecting images of the actual coins rather than slides.

6-30-54

On the occasion of the Society's 39th Anniversary, member Kurt E. Loret presented the PCNS with a souvenir penny of the Panama Pacific International Exposition for its collection.

9-29-54

As the Society's four United States "War Bonds" were about to mature, it was voted to cash them in and buy new bonds, the balance to be held back for the Society's 40th Anniversary celebration in 1955.

11-17-54

The origin of the PCNS Papers Competition may be found in a proposal at this meeting by John Ohls. Further details would be furnished later, the first competition to begin January 1955.

12-15-54

The members voted to raise the annual dues from $2.00 to $3.00.

1-26-55

Noted dealer Leo A. Young applied for membership.

2-23-55

Les Lodge urged the members to encourage juniors to attend the meetings.

NOTE: Juniors attending meetings of the PCNS were given a card to which was attached three foreign coins.

The Junior Coin Collectors of San Francisco was still an active club at this time. Its days were numbered, however, as no mention of it is to be found after 1960. The creation that year of the San Francisco Coin Club no doubt met the needs of the juniors.

4-28-55

President Ohls reported receiving two copies each of Whitman's "Hand Book of United States Coins" and "Guide Book of United States Coins" from the publisher. Also received from Wayte Raymond were 30 copies of his "Standard Catalog of United States Coins". These were all to be donated to San Francisco Libraries per the Society's request.

Reports were received from various members regarding their public displays during National Coin Week.

The evening's speaker was member Abe Kosoff who presented "Money Talks".

NOTE: More than at any time in its past the PCNS resembled a local coin club. Activities were limited to those which met the needs of the membership and the local community. Despite continued good attendance at meetings, new applications arrived at a much slower pace than previously.

6-29-55

This meeting was a banquet at Roselli's Restaurant celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the PCNS.

A musical tribute to Earl Parker was performed by Frank Galvin, Erich Werling, Ken Allen and Abe Kosoff, accompanied by Mrs. Allen at the piano. Following this, Mr. Kosoff presented Mr. Parker with a plaque recognizing his outstanding service to the Society.

11-30-55

PCNS member Joseph Stack, visiting from New York, spoke of coin collecting being the world's oldest hobby.

12-28-55

Winners of the first PCNS Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Mrs. Harry Cutler
2nd - Milton Strauch
3rd - John E. Ohls

The winners were given cash awards of $10, $5 and $2.50, respectively. It was recommended by Papers Chairman Parker that the program be continued in 1956.

1-14-56

The Society's practice of holding a planning session of the Board of Governors in January appears to have begun this evening with a special meeting at the home of President John E. Ohls. Programs for the coming year were announced and committee assignments made. Among the speakers proposed were various foreign consuls who would be asked to speak regarding their respective nations. Another potential speaker was Lucius Beebe of Virginia City, Nevada who would be asked to speak on the Comstock Lode.

1-25-56

Advertisers in the PCNS Bulletin who renewed for another year included B. Max Mehl, Abner Kreisberg and the Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine. The latter's publisher, Lee F. Hewitt, also enclosed a check in the amount of $10.00 to be awarded to the First Place winner of the 1956 Papers Competition.

Attendance was very high at this meeting, 38 members and 27 guests being present.

The speaker was noted dealer and PCNS member Leo A. Young who offered the topic "Odd and Curious Coins of the World".

2-29-56

The speaker this evening was prominent dealer Abner Kreisberg of Beverly Hills, California. He exhibited and described rare gold coins and patterns.

President Ohls requested that anyone having photographs of the Society's Past-Presidents provide them to Historian Sidney Haas. Mr. Haas was then preparing copy for the PCNS historical file which he hoped would ultimately reach print.

3-28-56

Another large attendance was recorded. 45 members and 18 guests were present for "Oriental" night.

This meeting was the Annual Banquet, held at the Bellevue Hotel. Among the out-of-town members present was Norman Shultz of Salt Lake City, Utah.

NOTE: During this and surrounding years, numerous items were donated to the Society's 1915 Collection. The nature of these objects was often not specified in the minutes.

12-19-56

Out of six entries in the 1956 Papers Competition the following winners were announced:

1st - John Ohls "California Commemorative Coins"
2nd - Mabel Patterson "Maria Theresa, A Numismatic Profile"
3rd - Don T. Thrall "U.S. Postage Stamps Used as Money"

1-30-57

A discussion of whether to continue or discontinue the monthly auction resulted in a decision to continue.

President Patterson presented John Ohls with a book titled "Multiple Talers of the Brunswick Duchies and Saxe-Lauenburg". This book had been signed by all of the members present and was given as a token of esteem for the work he had done on behalf of the Society.

2-27-57

The Board voted to send a letter to CSNA President Robert G. McArthur requesting that the Association's Spring 1960 convention be held at San Francisco. A similar request would be put forth to ANA General Secretary Lewis M. Reagan that the ANA come to San Francisco in 1965 to hold its convention during the 50th Anniversary of the PCNS.

NOTE: Despite the limited activities of the PCNS at this time, the broad range and depth of the numismatic items exhibited at the meetings shows a great sophistication in the membership.

4-24-57

The Board of Governors approved a request by the CSNA that the Society host its Spring Convention in 1959 rather than in 1960.

It was announced that John Ohls had been elected Vice-President of the CSNA.

6-26-57

The Annual Banquet was held at Casten's OxBow Restaurant.

7-31-57

The Board moved to form a Steering Committee which would seek to provide fresh ideas for monthly programs, to increase membership and attendance and to attract more young members.

Introduced as a guest was Dr. Gilbert L. Peres of Manila. Dr. Peres was returning home from Paris where he had placed an exhibit at the Medallis Society on behalf of the Philippines government.

9-25-57

John Ohls was appointed by President Patterson to be Chairman of the new Steering Committee. Mr. Ohls appointed Clifford Liss to be his assistant.

Mrs. Cutler was thanked for her brief history of the PCNS published in the September issue of Calcoin News in recognition of the Society's upcoming 500th meeting.

10-30-57

On this the occasion of the Society's 500th meeting, 55 members and 26 guests were present.

A special award was presented to each of the Past-Presidents in attendance. This was a silver medal bearing the Society's seal on one side and the particulars of each recipient's term of office on the other. It was further identified as having been presented at the 500th meeting. The recipients included Ralph Mitchell, Earl Parker, Stanley Blois, Mark Morris, David Redfield, Roy Hill, Clifford Bloom, Lesley Lodge and John Ohls. Photographs were taken of the group.

NOTE: Where are these photographs now?

11-22-57

A resolution was adopted calling for an end to the confiscation of United States Gold Certificates. Secretary Cutler was instructed to send a letter to Senator Kuchel asking "that some action be taken to further the intent and purpose of the Resolution". The members were also urged to write.

Ironically, the evening's speaker was Secret Service Agent P.H. Manning who displayed some examples of counterfeit coins and notes.

12-18-57

In recognition of his five years of service to the Society as Treasurer, Paul Snedaker was presented with a silver medal by President Patterson. This was similar to the Past President medals presented at the October meeting.

The winners in the 1957 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Mrs. Harry Cutler "California Gold-Quarters, Halves and Dollars"
2nd - Clifford Liss "U.S. Dollars"
3rd - Mabel Patterson "Symbols of Honor, Medals and Decorations"
and
Lesley Lodge "The Eagle on American Coins"

1-29-58

The reply of Senator Kuchel to the Society's letter regarding the confiscation of gold certificates was read. The Senator was of the opinion that he could do nothing about it, as they had been declared by the government to be illegal to own. Also read was a letter from Abe Kosoff advising the Society that a group in Southern California had begun working on the issue and that it would be better to let them handle it.

3-26-58

The Board discussed a letter from Allen J. Andersen, President of the North Dakota Coin Club, requesting support for Senate Bill S3299. This called for the striking of a commemorative half dollar for the centennial of Theodore Roosevelt's birth. The Secretary was instructed to write to San Francisco's Congressman urging support of this legislation.

The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine again donated $10 to be used as First Prize in the 1958 Papers Competition.

6-25-58

The Annual Banquet was held at the New Delmonico Restaurant. As had been the custom at such gatherings, several members prepared exhibits.

Donations were solicited for the ANA's People to People program, and $9 was collected. The purpose of this endeavor was to sponsor the visit of a recognized numismatist from behind the "Iron Curtain" to the 1958 ANA Convention at Los Angeles. The Society had previously donated $5 to this fund.

7-30-58

Among the 16 guests at this meeting was Howard Kurth, a member of the Albany Coin Club and author of the "Revised List of American Game Counters".

9-24-58

The guest speaker was Kenneth W. Lee of Glendale, California, co-author of a standard work on California Fractional gold pieces. His topic, however, was "The Eagle on Our Coins and Currencies".

10-29-58

President Patterson presented member F. E. Howard with a Trade Dollar dated 1878 and inscribed on the reverse with his name, a recognition of his 80th birthday and a notation that it was from the PCNS.

11-26-58

The speaker was noted numismatist and dealer Edward Gans of Berkeley, California. Mr. Gans described some highlights of his recent European trip.

12-17-58

The winners in the 1958 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Cecelia Hutt "Ptolemaic Queens"
2nd - Clifford Liss "U.S. Commemorative Coins, Their Relation to each State and Territory"
and
Milton Strauch "The Rise and Fall of the Netherlands Empire"

Incoming President Liss presented retiring President Patterson with a silver medal, suitably engraved.

1-28-59

The Society voted to nominate four candidates for office in the ANA. These were Herbert M. Bergen for Second Vice-President, C. C. Shroyer for First Vice-President, Lewis M. Reagan for General Secretary and Robert G. McArthur for the Board of Governors. Mr. Reagan was a Fellow of the Society.

PCNS Librarian H. F. Bowker had been appointed a consultant to the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of History and Technology. He would be advising its Curator of Numismatics on the Museum's East Asian coinages and was expected to be absent for about two or three months.

5-27-59

Honorary Member and retired Pressroom Foreman of the San Francisco Mint George Ruge spoke of his interest in preserving the old San Francisco Mint of 1874-1937. An old gold coin press was still to be found in the building, and he advocated that the structure be reopened as a museum.

6-24-59

The Annual Banquet was held at Marconi's Restaurant.

William G. Wilson was presented with a 1928-S silver dollar in a plastic mounting inscribed "From PCNS in honor of 31 years membership". Mr. Wilson also received from President Liss a letter thanking him for his long and faithful membership.

8-19-59

This meeting was held one week early so that the PCNS could host an open house for those persons enroute to the ANA Convention at Portland, Oregon.

NOTE: The only recognizable name among the visitors was that of Michael Powills from Chicago.

Secretary Cutler read a letter that she had sent to Interior Secretary Fred A. Seaton on behalf of the Society urging the preservation of the old San Francisco Mint.

10-28-59

On the recommendation of Abe Kosoff, the members voted to name the Society's Library the John E. Ohls - PCNS Library. This was done in recognition of the many efforts on behalf of the Society by the late Mr. Ohls.

11-25-59

Earl Parker displayed his John E. Ohls Memorial Award, presented to him by the CSNA for his efforts on behalf of numismatics.

12-30-59

The winners in the 1959 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Leo N. Kukuranov "Coins of India, From the Collector's point of View"
2nd - Clifford L. Liss "Gold Lure, 1848-1958"
3rd - Milton Strauch "Andorra"

1-27-60

Lee F. Hewitt, publisher of the Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine, had donated $25 to be used for prizes in the Papers Competition.

4-27-60

In an unusual program, highlights from the theatrical release "Ben Hur" were shown by permission of the film's producers.

6-29-60

The Annual Banquet was held at Grant's Charcoal Broiler.

Roy Hill was presented with two coins of the Helsinki Olympiad in an inscribed plastic frame with easel. The inscription read "Presented to ROY HILL, from PCNS at the 532nd Meeting. Joined January, 1931 - Received Fellowship, 1948". Vice President Strauch commended Mr. Hill for his many efforts for numismatics and for his assistance to junior collectors in particular.

9-28-60

Librarian Bowker announced that his design for the Society's bookplate had been selected from amongst the three entries submitted. The new design featured the $50 gold commemorative coin issued for the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in 1915 and was inscribed "The John E. Ohls - PCNS Library". The selection had been made by a committee consisting of Mrs. Ohls and President Liss.

Secretary Cutler read a letter from Mr. Kosoff revealing that he had once again presented the Society's bid for the 1965 ANA Convention to the Association at its recent Boston convention.

10-19-60

Librarian Bowker announced that a cut for the Society's bookplate had been made without charge by member Douglas Bingley.

12-28-60

The Board discussed the Society's proposal to host the 1965 ANA Convention, and it was agreed that the PCNS would not assume any of the cost incurred. Secretary Cutler was instructed to write General Secretary Reagan of the ANA informing him of this development.

Retiring President Liss was presented with the Past President's Medal by newly-elected President Milton Strauch.

The winners in the 1960 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Cecelia Hutt "Julia Domna - Roman Empress"
2nd - Milton Strauch "California, The Golden State"
3rd - John Sears "Men of America"

Commander Bowker was awarded the $10 prize for his bookplate design. The drawing of the bookplate was by Hisashi Ozawa.

NOTE: By this time, applications for membership had slowed dramatically. Only two had been received during the past several months.

1-25-61

A letter from ANA General Secretary Reagan was read in which he stated that "the Host Club has no financial responsibilities". He expressed his view that the selection of a site for the ANA's 1965 Convention would be made at the 1961 Convention.

5-27-61

The Annual Banquet was held at Torino's Restaurant.

Lesley G. Lodge was elected a Fellow "for his long, faithful and outstanding service to the Society and to numismatics in general".

David L. Redfield was presented with a small collection of Communion Tokens "for his long and faithful membership, dating since April 1940".

6-28-61

As this meeting was "Gold Night", an off-duty San Francisco Policeman was on guard throughout.

7-26-61

The theme of this meeting was "Canadian Coins and Paper Money". The featured speaker was Harold Don Allen of Montreal, then studying at Santa Clara University.

8-30-61

The Board of Governors opted to have the Society become a member of the recently formed Northern California Numismatic Association.

A letter from ANA General Secretary Reagan was read announcing the Association's rejection of the PCNS's bid to host its 1965 Convention. Following a lengthy discussion, Secretary Cutler was instructed to compose a letter in reply pointing out errors of fact given as reasons for rejecting the Society's bid.

Secretary Cutler read a letter that had been sent to Abe Kosoff thanking him for his presentation of the Society's bid. Also read was a copy of a telegram sent by Mr. Kosoff to the Association urging it to reconsider.

10-25-61

The Board decided to make a request of the CSNA to host the Association's Spring 1965 Convention.

11-29-61

The Board was informed of the CSNA's acceptance of its bid for the convention.

NOTE: Attendance during the early 1960's was typically around 30-40 members and 5-10 guests. Meetings continued to be held at the Sheraton Palace Hotel on the last Wednesday of the month.

12-20-61

The winners in the 1961 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Mrs. Harry Cutler "The American Trade Dollar"
and
Lesley Lodge "The Lowly Penny"
2nd - (not awarded)
3rd - Clifford Liss "Coins of the Philippines Under the United States"
Honorable Mention - Milton Strauch "The Union Divided"

6-12-62

The Annual Banquet was held at the Forest Lodge Restaurant.

Secretary Cutler was honored for her 20 years of membership and her many contributions to the Society. She was presented with a plaque reading "P.C.N.S. Presents This Plaque to Mrs. Harry Cutler in Recognition of Outstanding Service to Numismatics and Numismatists. 47th Anniversary 1962".

7-25-62

Several members discussed the government's new ruling that gold coins struck after 1933 could not be held unless it was established that they were rare. It was conceded that "if the rules and regulations are unfair or discriminatory, they should be altered or eliminated, but as long as they are part of the law, they should be abided by".

8-29-62

The Board decided that the recent Kennedy Administration ruling regarding gold had caused the price of gold coins to rise to where it was no longer possible to give out such coins as raffle prizes.

NOTE: For several years previous, it had been the practice of the Society to give away a half eagle as the monthly raffle grand prize.

9-26-62

President Strauch announced that the advisability of incorporating the Society was being investigated.

12-19-62

Mrs. Cutler was presented with a silver medal upon her retirement as Secretary after having served in this capacity for the past six years. She agreed to continue editing the Bulletin until further notice.

The winners in the 1962 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Bill Ames & Leo Kukuranov "Emperor Akbar - the Man Behind the Coins"
2nd - (not awarded)
3rd - Kurt Loret (no title given)

Retiring President Strauch was presented with a plaque and a silver Past-President's Medal by newly elected President Paul Snedaker.

3-27-63

Mr. Strauch announced that the PCNS had been incorporated.

4-24-63

A questionaire from the International Society of Professional Numismatists was read in which the PCNS was asked to join in the "formation of a common policy by all interested numismatic societies against the many forgeries of modern gold coins". The Board voted to respond in the affirmative.

5-29-63

Secretary Maxine Bryce was instructed to write to Congressman Shelley advising that the PCNS is in favor of reopening the San Francisco Mint rather than building a new mint at Philadelphia.

The Society adopted a resolution in which the sale, exhibit and advertising of modern replicas or forgeries of numismatic items was banned at all Society functions. This resolution was similar to one previously adopted by the CSNA, and it was sent to major numismatic periodicals.

NOTE: The widespread manufacture of unmarked copies intended for the non-numismatic market became a serious problem during the 1960's. It ultimately resulted in passage of the Hobby Protection Act of 1973 which specified that all such replicas be clearly marked COPY.

8-28-63

Earl Parker announced an auction by the Post Office of 280 uncirculated silver dollars of various dates to be held 30 October 1963 at the San Francisco Armory.

James Embee stated that the Society should go on record protesting the Treasury Department's confiscation of gold coins from the Witte Museum at San Antonio. He also affirmed that the PCNS should strive to have the San Francisco Mint reopened. The members were urged to write to their legislators on this matter.

President Snedaker repeated Mr. Embee's plea that the San Francisco Mint be reactivated and added that members should also urge Congress to save the old San Francisco Mint as a museum.

9-25-63

Secretary Bryce reported that some replies had been received from Congress to the letters advocating the reopening of the San Francisco Mint.

11-27-63

The members rose to observe a moment of silence for the late President Kennedy, assasinated five days previous.

12-18-63

The winners in the 1963 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Dennis Olswang "The Commemorative Silver Dollars of and Canada"
Don Thrall "The Crocker Citizens National Bank"
2nd - (not awarded)
3rd - Ed Sins "The Story of the Confederate Half Dollar"

5-27-64

Dr. Charles Kappen reported sales of his new book "So Called Dollars" were going well.

6-27-64

The Annual Banquet was held at Upton's Restaurant.

7-29-64

The Board voted to donate $10 toward the rebuilding of San Francisco's Palace of Fine Arts. The Palace was the sole survivor of the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exposition.

NOTE: This structure, which appears on the Society's 60th Anniversary Medal of 1975, was originally constructed of lathe and plaster. By the early 1960's it had deteriorated to the point where it had to be completely rebuilt using steel reinforced concrete.

9-30-64

Les Lodge reported that highlights from the Society's PPIE Collection would be on exhibit at the Spring 1965 convention of the CSNA.

11-25-64

Benjamin Stack of New York donated $50 toward the Society's 50th Anniversary celebration in memory of his many friends within the PCNS who had passed away.

2-24-65

Milton Strauch, General Chairman of the Spring 1965 CSNA Convention, announced that the two speakers lined up for the conven-

tion's educational forum were both members of the PCNS, Robert Burroughs of Berkeley and Abe Kosoff of Encino.

3-31-65

President John Sears announced that he had appointed Les Lodge Curator of the Society's PPIE-1915 Collection.

6-26-65

The Annual Banquet was again held at Upton's Restaurant.

7-28-65

The Board voted to donate $25 toward the ANA's Building Fund.

NOTE: The ANA selected Colorado Springs as the site for its permanent headquarters. The structure was dedicated in 1967.

Librarian George Sailor announced that the latest acquisitions for the John E. Ohls-PCNS Library had been 72 monographs donated by Commander Bowker.

NOTE: H. F. Bowker was a longtime member of the PCNS, its former Librarian and a published author. His work "A Numismatic Bibliography of the Far East: A Check List of Titles in European Languages" had been published in 1943 by the ANS as number 101 in its series "Numismatics Notes and Monographs".

10-27-65

Don Thrall announced that donations of items for the Society's PPIE-1915 Collection had been received from Mr. and Mrs. Kroeger and Mr. Slobodchikoff.

NOTE: These were just two of the many such donations of 1915 material made during 1964-66. These years were ones of tremendous growth for the collection.

12-29-65

The winners of the 1965 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Reta Hartson "Iceland"
2nd - Walter Gerth "Odd and Curious Money or Substitutes for Money"
3rd - John Fies "Coins of Aegina"

NOTE: No minutes survive for the June 1966 meeting. It was scheduled to be the occasion for the Annual Banquet at the Castle Lanes Restaurant. Former PCNS Librarian H. F. Bowker was to be presented with a plaque in recognition of his service.

7-27-66

Erich Werling presented the Society with two framed photographs. The first depicted the 1949 ANA Convention at San Francisco. The other was taken at the Society's 20th Anniversary Banquet in 1935.

8-31-66

Mr. Werling presented President Sears with a framed certificate awarded to the PCNS by the ANA for fifty years of continuous membership.

12-28-66

The Board voted to donate $5 toward the Museum Room in the new ANA Headquarters Building, as the room was to be named in honor of PCNS member Leonel Panosh.

The winners in the 1966 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Ed Sins "The Story of the U.S. Sandwich Coinage"
2nd - William de Vroom "The Stuyver of the Netherlands"
3rd - (not awarded)
Honorable Mention - Walter Gerth "Egyptian Ptolemy Coins"

Calcoin News Editor Les Lodge announced that the first and second place papers would be published the following year.

NOTE: During 1966-67, membership was down from the preceding years and averaged about 25 members and 5-10 guests. The Society continued to meet at the Sheraton Palace Hotel.

2-22-67

National Coin Week Chairman Roy Hill announced that he had arranged for a coin exhibit at the Wells Fargo Bank History Room. President Thrall added that a similar arrangement had been made with the Bank of California in Berkeley.

3-29-67

Librarian George Sailor reported that the suggestion made to the California Academy of Sciences that it host a permanent numismatic exhibit had been met with little encouragement.

President Thrall thanked Mr. Sailor for his catalogue of the Society's Library which had been recently prepared and distributed.

The death of longtime PCNS member Leonel Panosh was announced. The Society was considering an additional donation to the ANA's Building Fund in his memory.

6-17-67

The Annual Banquet was held at the Montgomery House Restaurant with 49 persons in attendance.

A glass bowl was presented to Clifford and Irene Liss, both longtime PCNS members and recently married to one another.

NOTE: Irene Liss was the widow of PCNS Past-President Earl Parker.

12-27-67

Mrs. Cutler read a letter from Commander Bowker in which he announced his display of Oriental coinage at the East Asiatic Library of the University of California during the month of January.

The winners in the 1967 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Ed Sins "Mexican Coinage of the 16th Century"
2nd - John Fies "Castles and Lions on Crosses"
and
William de Vroom "1952 Crown of South Africa"
3rd - Lesley Lodge "Lady Godiva, That Naked Woman"
Hon. Mention - Charles Aby, Clifford Liss and Don Thrall

6-22-68

The Annual Banquet was held at Grison's Steak House.

7-31-68

The speaker was member William Fox Steinberg. He told of his experiences while attending the recent convention of the International Society of Professional Numismatists at Naples, Italy.

12-18-68

The winners in the 1968 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - William de Vroom "Notes on Medals"
2nd - Ed Sins "The Carson City Mint"
3rd - Bruno Kuhe "Survey of Czechoslovakian Coins"

NOTE: The prizes were unchanged from previous competitions. Cash awards were made of $10, $5 and $2.50, respectively.

Incoming President Frank Strazzarino presented the silver Past-President's Medal to retiring President Don Thrall.

NOTE: During this period, new applications for membership were rare. In addition, the Society's members were almost entirely local, most being residents of San Francisco and its immediate environs. The scope of the Society's activities were correspondingly small, and this is the reason for the few entries to be found in this review.

Meetings consisted primarily of exhibits and talks by those members who attended regularly. Oral presentations of the previous year's entries in the Papers Competition accounted for many of the feature programs, guest speakers being rare.

1-29-69

Approximately 70 persons were present for this meeting, including at least 33 guests.

NOTE: The actual totals were not recorded, but the much larger than usual attendance can be attributed to the noteworthy guest speaker.

The guest speaker was Mr. Robert Bridges, Assistant Officer in Charge, U.S. Assay Office at San Francisco. His secretary, Miss Nancy A. Gergovitz, was also present. Mr. Bridges spoke on the Assay Office's handling of proof set production and distribution. He furthered answered questions from the audience regarding the facility's various operations.

6-21-69

The Annual Banquet was held at the Red Chimney Restaurant.

7-30-69

The guest speaker was Mr. Bruce Allfree, Manager of the American Bank Note Company. Mr. Allfree spoke on the operations of his company and on the subject of counterfeiting. He then presented the Society with a copy of the American Bank Note Company's centennial history for its Library.

9-24-69

The Board voted to rename the John E. Ohls-PCNS Library to simply the PCNS Library.

Roy Hill related his experience while attending the opening of the new Philadelphia Mint during the previous month.

10-29-69

The membership voted to amend the Society's By-Laws to reflect an increase in the annual dues from $3 to $5, effective 1 January 1970.

11-19-69

A letter addressed to PCNS member Robert R. Johnson from Abe Kosoff was read in which the latter urged that the Society petition the ANA to be host to its 1975 Convention. A motion to this effect was made and seconded, but another motion was passed that delayed voting on the first motion until the Board meeting of 28 January 1970.

Secretary Bryce was instructed to write to ANA Executive Director Adna Wilde requesting an outline of responsibilities for organizations sponsoring an ANA Convention.

12-17-69

Secretary Bryce handed out copies to the Board members of a letter received from Albert Baber, General Chairman of the 1968 ANA Convention at San Diego, in which he detailed the duties and expenses that my be encountered.

The winners in the 1969 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Bruno Kuhe "The Levantine Dollar"
2nd - Jack Hecht "My Favorite Coin"
3rd - William de Vroom "Minting in Amsterdam"
Honorable Mention - Walter Gerth "Odd and Curious Monies"

1-28-70

Following further discussion regarding the hosting of the 1975 ANA Convention, the motion pending from November's meeting was again tabled.

Les Lodge reported that he, John Fies and Mrs. Cutler had attended a recent hearing at the Federal Building in San Francisco to determine the fate of the old S.F. Mint structure at 5th and Mission Streets. Another hearing was slated for 10 February at which time arguments in favor of demolition would be presented.

2-25-70

Another letter from Abe Kosoff advocating the hosting of the ANA's 1975 Convention at San Francisco prompted further discussion but no action.

3-25-70

The motion to seek the 1975 ANA Convention was finally voted upon and passed with three Board members dissenting. The bid was to be extended to the ANA during its 1970 Convention at St. Louis.

Introduced as speaker for the evening was longtime PCNS member and Past-President Ralph Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell had become a special representative for the Franklin Mint, and he presented a film on medals titled "The Ultimate Achievement". Afterward, he presented the Society with a 25-piece set of the Franklin Mint's antique car medals to be used as a future prize.

6-27-70

The Annual Banquet was held at A. Sabella's Restaurant with 44 members and guests present.

Secretary Bryce was presented with a plaque for outstanding service to the Society.

7-29-70

The Board appointed Erich Werling to be its delegate to the upcoming convention of the ANA at St. Louis. Mr. Werling would present the Society's bid to host the 1975 Convention.

The Society agreed to donate $25 to the ANA Trust and to accept further donations from individual members to be added to that amount.

8-26-70

It was reported that Abe Kosoff had presented the Society's bid to host the 1975 Convention. This presentation was made the previous week at the St. Louis Convention. It was further reported that ANA General Secretary Adna Wilde would be visiting San Francisco in February of 1971 to look into this city's suitability as a convention site.

9-30-70

A letter from Abe Kosoff was read in which he urged that a council of coin clubs be formed to establish an organizing committee for the 1975 Convention.

It was announced that Les Lodge would present the Society's bid to host the Spring 1972 Convention of the CSNA. He would do this at the Association's Fall Convention the following month.

10-28-70

Six medals depicting Belgium's participation in the First World War were auctioned to benefit the Society's Treasury. They realized a total of $37.50

NOTE: These were likely the medals displayed by the PCNS as part of an Armistice Day celebration in 1924 (see page 9).

11-18-70

It was announced that the Spring 1972 Convention of the CSNA would be held at San Francisco with Ruth Ludwigsen acting as General Chairman.

NOTE: Attendance at meetings continued to decline through 1970. Typically, 15-25 members and 2-5 guests were present. Most of the members, however, exhibited regularly.

12-16-70

President Strazzarino announced that the PCNS would not be able to host the 1975 ANA Convention. It had been discovered that the only hotel of sufficient capacity, the Hilton, was not available during the month of August 1975.

Secretary Bryce was instructed to inform Mr. Kosoff of this development and to thank him for his efforts in this regard.

The winners in the 1970 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - John Fies "To Live a Thousand Years"
2nd - Frank Strazzarino "Italy, 110 Years of Unification"
3rd - Bruno Kuhe "History of the Mint"

NOTE: The prize for 1st Place was at last raised from $10 to $20. The other prizes are not noted in the minutes.

Incoming President Ruth Ludwigsen presented Frank Strazzarino with the Past-President's Medal and a copy of "Money Talks", newly published by the CSNA.

NOTE: A second copy of this work was presented retroactively to Don Thrall, Past-President 1967-68.

1-27-71

President Ludwigsen announced that the prizes for the Papers Competition would henceforth be as follows: 1st $25, 2nd $15, and 3rd $10.

She then presented Roy Hill with a 5-pound box of chocolates and a badge reading "Life Begins at 40" in honor of his 40 years of membership.

The guest speaker was David S. Aitkins, Representative's Assistant of Barclays Bank Ltd. His topic was Great Britain's conversion to decimal coinage, set for 15 February ("D" Day).

3-31-71

Jerry Schimmel announced that the American Tax Token Society had just been formed and that he had been elected its President.

6-26-71

The Annual Banquet was held at Gino's Restaurant. Mrs. Harry Cutler was presented with a certificate stating that she had been elected a Fellow of the Society.

7-28-71

The guest speaker at this meeting was Robert Bridges, Assistant Officer in Charge, San Francisco Assay Office. Mr. Bridges told of the minting and the distribution of the new Eisenhower dollars.

8-25-71

Roy Hill announced that the new U.S. Assay Office Exhibit Room at 50 Fell Street in San Francisco would be officially opened the following day.

12-15-71

The winners in the 1971 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Jay Patterson "The 1801 Cents"
2nd - Jerry F. Schimmel "The Unsuccessful History of the Sales Tax Token in California"
3rd - Charles W. Aby "Begorra, the Cob, It's Irish!"
Honorable Mention - John Fies "Epitaph to the Silver Dollar"
and Don Thrall "Numismatic Paper"

3-29-72

A discussion developed regarding the transfer of the old San Francisco Mint from the General Services Administration to the Treasury Department and what effect this would have upon its fate.

4-26-72

President Ludwigsen thanked all those who contributed their time to the recently concluded convention of the CSNA. This event had been held at San Francisco with the PCNS as host.

5-31-72

Mr. Bridges of the SFAO was made an Honorary Member.

6-24-72

The Annual Banquet was held at Granziano's Restaurant. 46 members and guests were present.

Frank J. Strazzarino was given an Award of Appreciation for "Outstanding Leadership and Devoted Service to the Society".

7-12-72

This was a special Board meeting called by President Ludwigsen to announce that she was invited to a meeting on 14 July with U.S. Mint Director Mary Brooks. The meeting would take place at the old San Francisco Mint with the purpose of getting ideas for its use as a numismatic museum.

The Board authorized the President to discuss with Director Brooks the possibility of the Society's Library being donated to the Mint for use by the public. This move was prompted by the recent resignation as Librarian of George Sailor. The Library was temporarily in the care of Don Thrall.

In recognition of the Society's upcoming 60th Anniversary in 1975, an Anniversary Committee was appointed consisting of Roy Hill, Jay Patterson and Don Thrall.

7-26-72

In a discussion of the proposal to donate the PCNS Library to the Old Mint Museum, Torres Weir stated that any such move should include the provision that the books would be returned to the Society in the event that the Mint's Library was ever discontinued.

It was reported that the California Historical Society's recent exhibit of items from the PCNS PPIE-1915 Collection had been a success. Don Thrall praised Curator John Sear's preparation of the exhibit.

11-29-72

President Ludwigsen reported that at the recent CSNA Convention the San Francisco Mint Museum Committee had asked the FCNS to provide some outline as to what it held in its FPIE-1915 Collection. The Museum was to include in its displays some Californiana.

President Ludwigsen also presented a program on the restoration of the San Francisco Mint featuring before and after slides of the renovations.

12-27-72

The winners in the 1972 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Frank Strazzarino "The Handicapped Buffalo"
2nd - William de Vroom "The Gold Ducat of The Netherlands"
3rd - Jay Patterson - "The Flower Coins of Japan"

President Ludwigsen invited all members to attend her wedding on 30 December.

Don Thrall presented to the President a brass medal commemorating her betrothal to CSNA President S. Everett Phillips. 250 of these medals had been produced, and they were available for purchase at $1 each.

NOTE: These medals also make reference to this being the 682nd Meeting of the FCNS. Although of private issue, these are frequently collected along with the Society-sponsored medals.

Incoming President Dr. Charles Aby presented the silver Past-President's Medal to retiring President Ludwigsen.

Bruno Kuhe presented to Curator John Sears a signed letter that he had received the previous year from former President of the United States Harry S Truman. President Truman's funeral had taken place the day of this meeting.

1-31-73

The guest speaker was Bland T. Brockenborough, Officer in Charge of the SFAO. Mr. Brockenborough spoke on that facility's 1973 coin programs and displayed a 1973 proof set. He was presented with a copy of "Money Talks" in appreciation for his time.

2-28-73

The Society purchased at cost the medals ordered by Don Thrall in commemoration of Ruth Ludwigsen's engagement and the Society's 682nd Meeting.

Treasurer Jay Patterson reported that about 125 of the medals had already been sold at $1 each. It was anticipated that the remainder would be given out as door prizes at the Spring 1973 Convention of the CSNA.

NOTE: Whether these medals were actually given out at the convention in 1973 is not recorded, but the Society did not dispose of the last of them until 1988. At that time, they were being used as raffle prizes or could be purchased at $3 each.

3-28-73

A new applicant for membership was Ed Fulwider, employed as a die setter at the SFAO.

4-25-73

Librarian Don Thrall reported that Director Brooks and other Mint officials had examined the PCNS Library at his home and were favorably impressed. If accepted, the books would be shipped to Washington, D.C. for cataloging and, if necessary, repairing. They would then be placed at the Old Mint Museum where they would be available for study by serious numismatists.

5-30-73

Librarian Thrall reported that he had a receipt for 32 cubic feet of books picked up from his home that day. These were on their way to Washington.

He then moved that the Library be transferred to the U.S. Bureau of the Mint, to be housed at its office of West Coast Operations. The motion was seconded by Roy Hill and carried unanimously.

6-23-73

The Annual Banquet was held at the Leopard Cafe. 61 members and guest were present.

9-26-73

Don Thrall announced that the formal dedication of the Old Mint Museum's Numismatic Room would take place on 14 October. The first exhibit to be featured was the CSNA's collection of Californiana, recently donated to the Museum.

10-31-73

Roy Hill reported that the former PCNS Library was still in Washington being bound. When returned to San Francisco, it was to be placed on the Museum's second floor.

11-28-73

The guest speaker at this meeting was Merrilee Gwerder, Director of the Wells Fargo Bank History Room. Miss Gwerder presented a slide program on the part played by Wells Fargo in the development of the West and described the History Room's museum and library.

NOTE: The Wells Fargo Bank History Room is at this time (1990) the fourth longest standing member of the PCNS. Its membership dates from 1946 at which time an exhibit was first placed there by the Society in celebration of National Coin Week.

12-26-73

The winners in the 1973 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Larry Reppeteau "The Riddle of Portcullis Money"
2nd - Michel Perekrestenko "Silver Wire Kopecks of 16th to 18th Century Russia"
3rd - William de Vroom "Australian Proclamation Coins"

Incoming President Jay Patterson presented the silver Past-President's Medal to retiring Dr. Aby.

6-29-74

The Annual Banquet was held at the Stagecoach Restaurant with 38 members and guests present.

7-31-74

The speakers for this meeting were Don Thrall, who described the changes and new exhibits at the Old Mint Museum, and Ed Fulwider, die setter at the SFAO, who spoke on the current activities of that facility.

8-28-74

Frank Strazzarino urged members to see the Henry Clifford Collection of territorial and private gold coins, recently installed at the Old Mint Museum.

NOTE: As of 1990, this collection has changed hands several times, and its future as an exhibit at the Old Mint is uncertain. A large number of the pieces were auctioned by Bowers and Ruddy in 1982. Among the heaviest buyers at that sale were coin dealers Art and Don Kagin, who later returned their purchases to public display. The present owner of the collection has not yet taken any action to remove the coins from the Mint.

9-25-74

This meeting was the Society's White Elephant Sale, an event which had become an annual tradition over the past few years.

NOTE: The proceeds from this and the preceding year's auction were directed toward production of the Society's 60th Anniversary Medal in 1975.

11-20-74

Medal Chairman Don Thrall distributed to the Board members a summary of the projected cost for the Society's 60th Anniversary Medal. Contrasting this figure with the amount of money actually available, he suggested the issuance of non-interest bearing stock. A sample share was displayed. Further discussion was postponed until the January Board meeting.

12-18-74

The winners in the 1974 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Larry Reppeteau "Ill Fated Coins of Mexico"
2nd - Michel Perekrestenko "Counterfeit Money as an Instrument of War"
3rd - Don Thrall "From Horse Car to BART in the East Bay Area"
Honorable Mention - William de Vroom "Communion Tokens"

John Fies suggested that some sort of remembrance of the late Les Lodge should be installed at the Old Mint Museum, as Mr. Lodge had worked so hard to see the Museum realized. President Patterson suggested that a plaque be placed in the Library when the former PCNS Library is installed.

NOTE: Nothing seems to have come of these suggestions, as no mention of Mr. Lodge is to be found at the Museum.

Dr. Charles Aby, President in 1973, was presented with a replacement for his Past-President's Medal stolen along with his coin collection earlier in the year.

NOTE: Attendance at the monthly meetings continued its slow decline during 1974. A figure of 12-15 members, plus a small number of guests, was typical.

1-6-75

In this special Board meeting called by President Patterson at his home, it was decided to strike 50 of the 60th Anniversary Medals in silver and the remainder in bronze. Committee Chairman Don Thrall proposed the sale of shares to raise the $2800 needed for this project. If this amount was not realized by 1 April 1975, the medal project would be abandoned.

1-29-75

Medal Chairman Thrall reported that to date he had received only $475 toward the 60th Anniversary Medal Fund.

Motions were proposed creating two new Honorary Members. The first of these was the Officer in Charge, SFAO. The second nominee was Olga Melko, Curator of the Old Mint Museum. Both of these persons were to be Honorary Members only while serving in the roles specified.

NOTE: While the name of the Officer in Charge, SFAO, does not appear in the minutes, that office would have been occupied at the time by Robert Bridges.

3-26-75

Medal Chairman Thrall reported that the total raised to date was only about $1350. Advising that more contributions were needed, he announced that the production order would be placed regardless.

4-30-75

Mr. Thrall reported that he had placed an order for 100 silver and 500 bronze strikes of the PCNS 60th Anniversary Medal. An additional 25 silver and 50 bronze uniface medals featuring the PCNS seal had also been ordered. These were to be used for awards and presentations.

NOTE: The meeting minutes include very little information regarding the particulars of these medals. In conversations with Don Thrall, this writer learned that the 1975 medal, which featured a view of San Francisco's Palace of Fine Arts Rotunda, was sculpted by Boris Buzon and coined by Medallions Unlimited. The latter was a partnership of Richard and Barbara Hyde.

Like the Society's 25th Anniversary Medal in 1940, this issue was octagonal. That such a step was made economically viable was due to the fact that Masterpieces Unlimited had previously prepared an octagonal collar for a medallic issue of the CSNA. This was made available for use with the PCNS's medal at no additional cost.

When the Society again attempted to produce an octagonal medal for its 75th Anniversary in 1990, this collar could not be located. Both Hydes were deceased, and their heirs proved disinterested in the Society's predicament. As a result, the PCNS was prevented from producing an octagonal medal to complement its earlier issues by the prohibitive cost of preparing an octagonal collar.

5-28-75

Ed Fulwider, Senior Die Setter at the SFAO, displayed uncirculated and proof specimens of the U.S. Bicentennial commemorative coins. These had not been released for distribution yet, and he was granted special permission to borrow them for the evening. In addition, he presented a slide slow of the SFAO's operations.

6-28-75

The 60th Anniversary Banquet of the PCNS was held at the Red Chimney Restaurant. 37 members and guests were present.

7-30-75

Examples of the 60th Anniversary Medal in silver and bronze were displayed. It was decided that they would be priced at $15 and $3, respectively.

As the Society now had on hand a supply of uniface medals, it was decided that these pieces, suitably engraved, would be presented to the winners in the annual Papers Competition in lieu of the cash awards used previously. Henceforth, the First Place entry would be awarded a silver medal, and the Second and Third Place entries would each receive bronze.

8-27-75

Treasurer Thrall reported that the monthly rent for the Society's meeting room at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel had been raised from $30 to $40. Following a discussion of possible alternative sites, it was agreed that the Treasurer and the President would investigate the prospects and report back at the September meeting.

It was reported that member Jerry Kroeger had donated a pair of photographic negatives of the Society's medal and that these would be sent to Coin World for publicity.

10-29-75

The Board voted to present the CSNA with examples of the 60th Anniversary Medal for the Association's collection.

President Patterson suggested that after the first of the new year a ballot be sent out along with the annual dues notice seeking the preferences of the members with regard to a meeting site. The options would include remaining at the Palace Hotel, choosing another location or expressing no preference for either plan.

11-19-75

Longtime member Dr. Nathan A. Bowers was elected an Honorary Member. This was prompted by Dr. Bowers' donation of $50 to the Society and by his continued support.

Medal Chairman Thrall reported that about $1180 was in the Medal Bond Account, and he received authorization to begin retiring the bonds.

NOTE: An example of one of these share certificates is to be found with the minutes for 1974.

12-17-75

The winners in the 1975 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Don Thrall "History of Canadian Numismatics"
2nd - William de Vroom "Weight Correct?"
and
John Fies "So Fragile the Fabric of Dynasties"

1-28-76

President Ed Fulwider emphasized the need for a new meeting place, as the Palace Hotel had become cost prohibitive.

Medal Chairman Thrall reported that as of 31 December the Society had on hand 23 silver medals and 428 bronze medals of the 1975 issue.

NOTE: The remaining silver strikes sold out the following year. The last of the bronze medals were sold on behalf of the Society by this writer in 1990. Previously, a few had been sold to members at the rate of perhaps two or three per year. Most, however, had been given away as raffle prizes at the monthly meetings or had been counterstamped in 1980 for the Society's 65th Anniversary.

4-28-76

Don Thrall reported that the former PCNS Library was now installed at the Old Mint Museum. He asked that members having additional donations of books deliver them to him at the meetings. He would then pass them on and see that the PCNS received credit as the donor.

5-26-76

Medal Chairman Thrall reported only 12 1975 silver medals remaining.

President Fulwider announced that a new meeting location had been selected and that the PCNS was on a waiting list for a room.

6-26-76

The Annual Banquet was held at the United Irish Cultural Center.

7-28-76

President Fulwider reported that the Society's new meeting place at the California Federal Savings and Loan office was being readied for use.

9-29-76

The President again reported on the new meeting place, stating that the room had not yet been furnished.

10-27-76

Treasurer Thrall read a letter from the management of the Palace Hotel announcing a further increase in the monthly room rent from $40 to $50, effective 1 January 1977.

The Board approved a transferral of $500 into the Medal Fund to help retire the $1000 in bonds still outstanding.

President Fulwider reported that an occupancy date for the Society's new meeting place was uncertain but that it was expected to be at least six weeks away.

11-17-76

President Fulwider reported on the activities of the SFAO, where he was employed as Senior Die Setter. He stated that the first trial strikes of 1977-dated coinage had been made that day.

12-29-76

The winners in the 1976 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Stephen Huston "The Latin Monetary System"
2nd - Albert Hall "Nellie Tayloe Ross"
3rd - William de Vroom "The Rear Wheels of a Nation"

1-26-77

The Board discussed the need for a rent-free meeting place.

NOTE: No explanation is found in the minutes as to why the anticipated move to the California Federal Savings and Loan branch did not take place. In the meantime, meetings continued at the evermore expensive Palace Hotel.

2-23-77

President Fulwider reported that the Marines Memorial Building offered a meeting room that was available on the Society's regular meeting night at a monthly rental of $20. The Board agreed to send a few of its members to inspect this facility and report back at the March meeting.

4-27-77

This meeting was the first of several held at the Marines Memorial Building, Mason and Sutter Streets, in San Francisco.

5-25-77

Don Thrall reported that the last of the silver 60th Anniversary Medals had been sold.

6-25-77

The Annual Banquet was again held at the United Irish Cultural Center.

8-31-77

A videotape produced by the local CBS affiliate, station KPIX in San Francisco, was shown courtesy of President Fulwider. In this program, Mr. Fulwider took the station's reporter on a tour of the SFAO to view the production of 1977 proof sets.

9-28-77

President Fulwider asked Frank Strazzarino to accept the Society's 25-year membership medal from the CSNA at the Association's upcoming Pasadena Convention.

10-26-77

Following the financial success of the Spring 1977 CSNA Convention at San Francisco, hosted by the PCNS, it was voted to again host this event in the Spring of 1978.

11-30-77

The Board voted to retire the remaining $500 worth of Medal Bonds.

12-28-77

The winners in the 1977 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Don Thrall "Strawberry Tokens"
2nd - Virginia Hall "A Numismatic Journey"
and
Stephen Huston "Coins of Camelot"
Honorable Mention - Michel Perekrestenko "Russian Fur Money"

The silver Past-President's Medal was presented to Ed Fulwider by incoming President Larry Reppeteau.

1-25-78

It was announced that the upcoming CSNA Educational Symposium would feature two PCNS members among the speakers, Abe Kosoff and Ed Fulwider.

2-22-78

President Reppeteau reported that he had located a new meeting place at the PSA Hotel San Franciscan, 1231 Market Street. This was the former Hotel Whitcomb, site of the Society's meetings decades earlier. The monthly rental of a meeting room was $25.

3-29-78

This meeting was the first of several held at the Hotel San Franciscan.

Secretary Maxine Bryce delivered to Librarian Thrall the book "California Tokens", authored by PCNS member Charles Kappen and presented by the NCNA to each of its member clubs.

6-24-78

The Annual Banquet was again held at the United Irish Cultural Center. A total of 41 members and guests were present.

President Reppeteau announced that John Sears had resigned as Curator of the Society's collections and that Don Thrall had been appointed his successor.

An octagonal silver uniface medal was presented to Secretary Bryce with the following engraving: "Honoring Maxine Bryce/ Secretary and Editor/ for years of service to the Society and numismatics/ June 24, 1978".

Round, bronze medals featuring this same message on one side were distributed to all those present at the Banquet. The other side of these medals read: "Pacific Coast Numismatic Society/ 784th Meeting/ June 24, 1978".

NOTE: As this was actually the Society's 748th Meeting, these medals are in error. This was not an officially sanctioned issue of the PCNS. It was privately ordered by Don Thrall, and the remaining pieces were acquired by the Society. No mintage figure is available, but the issue is believed to have been under 100.

7-26-78

The Board again voted to host the Spring 1979 Convention of the CSNA.

Curator Thrall reported that he had begun to sort out the PCNS collections in an effort to prepare an inventory. Among his projects was the assembling of the meeting minutes into binders.

NOTE: That this information is usable today may be attributed to Mr. Thrall's efforts. Although the minutes of many meetings have been lost, those that survive are stored in such a way that they will remain available for study into the forseeable future.

8-30-78

The Board voted to award a special medal at the CSNA's Spring 1979 Convention for the best exhibit tied to the convention's theme of "Ships in Numismatics".

NOTE: The theme of the 64th Convention was more specifically "Nautical Numismatics".

Curator Thrall updated the members on his cataloging of the Society's collections. It was suggested that he prepare an exhibit of these items for the Spring 1979 Convention.

10-25-78

After having spoken with the Old Mint Museum's Curator, Olga Melko, Don Thrall reported that the former PCNS Library was being used primarily by college students and non-numismatists.

12-27-78

The winners in the 1978 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Don Thrall "Currency Issuing Banks of Berkeley"
2nd - William de Vroom "A Coin From the Deep"
3rd - Clifford Liss "U.S. Commemorative Coins"

3-28-79

Former Mint Director Mary Brooks was elected an Honorary Member of the PCNS in recognition of the key role she played in saving the San Francisco Mint from destruction.

5-30-79

The Board voted to co-host with the San Francisco Coin Club the Spring 1980 Convention of the CSNA.

The evening's program featured Ed Fulwider, Senior Die Setter at the SFAO. He described the coining of the new Susan Anthony dollars.

NOTE: These coins were released to circulation on 2 July 1979.

6-23-79

The Annual Banquet was held at Batmale's Restaurant.

11-28-79

Osmyn Stout initiated a discussion of whether the Society might be of assistance in the disposition of deceased members' collections. No action was taken, and the matter was deferred until the new year.

12-26-79

A letter was read from Congressman Frank Annunzio (D-IL), Chairman of the House Coinage Subcommittee. In it he urged the PCNS to support pending legislation that would authorize the President of the United States to declare the third week in April of each year to be National Coin Week. Secretary Bryce was instructed to answer Congressman Annunzio's letter, indicating that the Society was in unanimous support of his efforts.

President Reppeteau announced the Hotel San Franciscan's intention to raise the monthly rental of the Society's meeting room from $25 to $40, effective with the January meeting.

The winners in the 1979 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - J. Allen Gilbert "The Enigma of Alchemical Coins"
2nd - Ed Fulwider "If You Knew Susie..."
3rd - Don Thrall "Telephone Franks"

Retiring President Larry Reppeteau was presented with the silver Past-President's Medal by incoming President O. L. Wallis.

1-30-80

President Wallis reported that the management of the Hotel San Franciscan intended to raise the monthly rental from $25 to $85, rather than the $40 stated previously.

NOTE: The frequent relocations that the PCNS suffered during this period can be attributed to the double-digit inflation experienced nationwide during 1979-81.

The Board discussed various alternative meeting sites, including the Jack Tar Hotel (host to many CSNA Conventions), the Unitarian Center, the Knights of Columbus Hall (home to the San Francisco Coin Club), the Sir Francis Drake Hotel, the Marines Memorial Building (used for meetings 1977-78) and the Hotel Canterbury. Some of these facilities were not available on the Society's meeting night, the last Wednesday of each month.

President Wallis was authorized by the Board to investigate these sites and to select the one most suitable.

A motion was passed to produce a medallic commemorative for the Society's 65th Anniversary in 1980.

2-27-80

This and subsequent meetings for the next 21 months were held at the Hotel Canterbury, 750 Sutter Street.

NOTE: Attendance at meetings was quite small during this period, 9 to 12 members and 1 to 2 guests being typical. This permitted the Society to rent the Hotel's restaurant annex for its meetings at a monthly rate of $25.

3-26-80

Curator Thrall reported that Barbara Hyde, former editor of Calcoin News, had presented the Society with a nearly complete set of the PCNS Bulletin dating from 1940.

NOTE: This announcement reveals an interesting feature that is typical of the PCNS archives. Most of the material present today was not saved by the Society when issued but rather was obtained through donations such as Mrs. Hyde's.

The lack of a permanent meeting facility, such as that owned and occupied by the ANS, had brought about the loss of much precious information and memorabilia. Only by means of donations from its members and other interested persons has the Society been able to reconstruct its past.

4-30-80

Librarian Thrall reported the donation by PCNS member Q. David Bowers of one copy of his book "Adventures with Rare Coins". Also donated were 20 copies of his book "High Profits from Rare Coin Investment".

5-28-80

The Board voted unanimously to again host the CSNA's Spring 1981 Convention.

Don Thrall displayed an example of the Society's 60th Anniversary Medal of 1975 which had been counterstamped "65TH YEAR 1980" on the seal side. The bronze medals remaining from 1975 had been counterstamped and were being offered at $1 apiece, or $1.50 by mail.

NOTE: Not all of the remaining 1975 medals were counterstamped, as unmarked examples were available until early in 1990.

6-28-80

The Annual Banquet was held at Lehr's Greenhouse Restaurant, located in the Hotel Canterbury.

8-27-80

The Board voted to present a bronze award at the Spring 1981 CSNA Convention for the best exhibit displaying the convention theme "I Left My Heart in San Francisco".

9-24-80

Treasurer Thrall reported that all of the counterstamped medals had been sold.

10-29-80

President Wallis announced that PCNS member John Sears had received Krause Publications' Numismatic Ambassador Award.

11-19-80

President Wallis reported that he had reserved the Society's meeting room for the following year. The monthly rental was to be raised to $35, effective 1 January 1981.

12-17-80

The winners in the 1980 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - Michael S. Turrini "History of the Vallejo Numismatic Society"
2nd - O. L. Wallis "Farran Zerbe and the P.C.N.S."
3rd - David Cieniewicz "Coins, the Mirrors of History"

President Wallis announced that for 1981 an additional literary competition would be held. Short articles of 250 words or less could be published as the fourth page of the PCNS Bulletin. The best one to appear during the year would receive a prize, the nature of which was not discussed.

3-25-81

The Board voted to place the name of PCNS member Q. David Bowers in nomination for the Vice-Presidency of the ANA.

6-27-81

The Annual Banquet was again held at Lehr's Greenhouse Restaurant.

9-30-81

President Wallis announced that the meetings of the PCNS would again need to be relocated, as the Hotel Canterbury would no longer provide a meeting room after the end of the year. Several alternative sites were suggested. These were to be investigated and reported on at the October meeting.

The President also announced that he had prepared customized certificates with the Society's name for presentation to speakers at the monthly meetings.

NOTE: Prior to this time, the PCNS had presented certificates which were furnished by either the ANA or the CSNA. As these had to be ordered for each speaker, this system was considered cumbersome and frequently led to delays in the presentation of certificates.

Typically, a backlog of two to three certificates would develop before all of them were presented at a single meeting. If the speaker from a previous meeting was not a regular attendee, months might pass before the presentation was finally made. Having a supply of the Society's own certificates and seals eliminated this problem.

10-28-81

President Wallis announced that the November meeting would be held at the Telephone Museum, 1145 Larkin Street at Bush, San Francisco.

Don Thrall, through whom the new facility had been secured, revealed that the meeting room was being provided rent free. As this eliminated the Society's major ongoing expense, Mr. Thrall requested a payment of $10 to be put toward the providing of refreshments at each meeting.

NOTE: As of this writing (1990) the meeting minutes from November 1981 through December 1983 have not been located and are feared lost.

1-14-84

This was a special Board meeting held at the home of President Osmyn Stout in Sonoma.

Papers Chairman O. L. Wallis announced his intention to develop a set of criteria for authors to follow when preparing submissions. This was expected to make things easier for the judges when evaluating entries.

President Stout distributed copies of the Constitution and By-Laws to each person and suggested that the same be given to each new member and to existing members who request it.

An Editorial Committee was appointed consisting of Paul Holtzman, Brian Kestner and David Lange. The goal of this committee was to seek a replacement for PCNS Bulleting Editor Larry Repperteau who had filled the position on a temporary basis following the death of Maxine Bryce in 1982.

2-28-84

Papers Chairman Wallis asked for the members' input in his effort to establish guidelines for the writing and judging of entries.

Mr. Wallis was directed by the Board to prepare 25 packets of information to include a brief history of the Society and a copy of its Constitution and By-Laws. These would be given to all new members and to existing members requesting such.

It was announced that President Stout would be among the speakers at the CSNA Educational Symposium in March.

3-28-84

Editorial Committee Chairman Paul Holtzman reported that the Committee had not yet found a new editor for the PCNS Bulletin. Committee member David Lange thereupon volunteered to fill the position.

Curator Don Thrall displayed some jewels from the Society's PPIE-1915 Collection. These had been mounted on the Tower of Jewels at the Exposition. For the past year or so, the jewels had been on display at the University of California at Berkeley.

Mr. Thrall also reported that a donation of numismatic publications received from Virginia Waldron included a price list put out by Farran Zerbe.

5-30-84

Papers Chairman Wallis presented his guidelines for the annual competition. With a few revisions, the Board approved them for use.

Due to concern over the cost of the PCNS Bulletin, President Stout requested the Editorial Committee to prepare a budget.

Secretary Strazzarino expressed his concern that the PCNS had received very little publicity in the numismatic press.

President Stout appointed a committee of three to evaluate O. L. Wallis' proposal that Don Thrall be made a Fellow of the Society. The committee reported favorably upon this nomination, a vote was taken, and Don Thrall was duly elected a Fellow.

6-30-84

The Annual Banquet was again held at the New San Remo Restaurant with 32 persons present. In the absence of President Stout, Vice-President Cieniewicz presented Don Thrall with a framed certificate declaring him a Fellow.

7-25-84

The ongoing concern over expenses was discussed further. Editorial Committee Chairman Holtzman stated that work was ongoing and that the Committee would report soon. President Stout suggested that a budget be prepared for each year. Treasurer Thrall submitted a schedule of income and expenses for each of the previous nine years.

8-29-84

Chairman Holtzman reported that the Editorial Committee's proposals included scaling down the size and scope of the PCNS Bulletin and supplementing it with a quarterly journal. This journal would feature entries from past Papers Competitions, as well as new articles, and it would be financed in part through advertisements. It was estimated that the smaller Bulletin and the new Journal would cost about as much as the present Bulletin alone.

The Board received this report favorably, and a motion was passed recommending to the general membership that these proposals be approved. The members voted their approval, with the provision that these programs be reviewed and again voted upon in one year's time.

The first issue of The Journal of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society was planned for publication in October of 1984 with Stephen M. Huston as editor. David Lange had previously declined this position, prefering to continue as editor of the Bulletin alone.

9-26-84

A new Publications Committee was formed to succeed the old Editorial Committee. Paul Holtzman was again appointed Chairman. He reported that The Journal was progressing and would be mailed to the members in early October.

10-28-84

This was a Sunday afternoon meeting held for the benefit of those persons reluctant to go out in the evening. Among the 28 members and guests present were seven Past-Presidents. A pot luck luncheon was served.

11-28-84

It was announced that at the recent CSNA Convention at Anaheim, PCNS member O. L. Wallis had received Krause Publications' Numismatic Ambassador Award.

Publications Committee Chairman Holtzman reported that the proposed advertising rates for The Journal had been approved. The Committee was seeking suggestions as to how The Journal could be improved.

12-26-84

Journal Editor Stephen Huston revealed that due to a lack of specific guidelines in the past, many of the papers on hand were not suitable for publication in The Journal without editing or rewriting. He encouraged members to submit more papers.

NOTE: In earlier years, it had been the Society's practice to submit the better entries from each year's Papers Competition to the editor of Calcoin News. Many of these works were in fact published by the CSNA, but an equal number were not. Some were inadvertently republished in The Journal because no one remembered them having appeared previously in Calcoin News!

The winners in the 1984 Papers Competition were announced:

1st - William D. Henry "The Coinage of Philip II of Macedonia"
2nd - J. Allen Gilbert "Mystic Coins of Ancient Greece"
and
Michael S. Turrini "Launch a Submarine - Mint a Medal"
3rd - (not awarded)
Hon. Mention - Charles W. Aby "LIBERTAD" on the Reverse of the Do Hooknecks"

As the awards for future Papers Competitions were to be given at the Annual Banquet in June, the deadline for the 1985 Competition was advanced to 24 April of that year.

2-27-85

The Society for International Numismatics had written to the PCNS requesting that The Journal be sent to its library regularly as each issue was published. The Board agreed to fulfill this request.

NOTE: It was about this time that mailings of the PCNS Bulletin to officers and Board members began to include the minutes of the previous month's Board meeting and regular meeting.

4-24-85

Ed Fulwider informed the members of the many coin talks that he had been giving to young people. He stated that any donations of coins, tokens, books and other items that might be of interest to this audience would be appreciated by him.

5-29-85

In memory of Past-President Clifford Bloom, recently deceased, it was proposed that the PCNS sponsor "The Clifford H. Bloom Award", to be given to the first place exhibit of medals at the semi-annual conventions of the CSNA. A motion was made and seconded to establish a $1500 fund from which the interest would be used to pay for this award. Contributions would be received from both members and non-members of the Society. After much discussion, this motion failed to pass.

6-29-85

The Annual Banquet was again held at the New San Remo Restaurant.

NOTE: The winners in the 1985 Papers Competition were announced at the Banquet, but the names of the authors and their entries do not appear in the minutes.

7-31-85

Don Thrall reported that President Stout had recently spoken with Olga Widness, Curator of the Old Mint Museum. She said that to her knowledge there was no truth to the rumors of the Museum closing. She further expressed her opinion that should such a closing occur, the PCNS Library would be returned to the Society.

Plans for the 75th Anniversary of the PCNS in 1990 were proposed. Curator Thrall suggested the coining of a silver medal, and Secretary Strazzarino advocated the production of a souvenir program. This could include photos of the Society's Fellows and Past-Presidents, as well as other signifigant contributors.

NOTE: These suggestions, however worthwhile, were premature. The matter received no further attention until 1987.

8-28-85

President Stout read a letter received from Olga Widness in which she outlined the procedure for utilizing the Library of the Old Mint Museum. A discussion ensued in which Librarian Thrall agreed to meet further with Mrs. Widness and to study the terms under which the Society's Library had been donated to the Museum. He was to report back at a future meeting.

NOTE: The above correspondence and discussion was prompted by this writer's experience in requesting access to the Library. Although access was granted, it was done under such restrictive conditions as to raise doubts about the wisdom of the Society's donation.

Apparently, no PCNS member had ever requested access to Library since it had been installed at the Museum. To this writer's knowledge, no one has done so at any time subsequent to the above described incident.

9-25-85

A check in the amount of $100 was received from Pacific Gas & Electric Company as part of its program to recognize community service by its employees. This grant had been obtained through PCNS member and PG&E employee David Lange. It was to be applied toward offsetting the expense of producing The Journal.

A pamphlet from the ANA was read in which the Association sought memberships in its 1891 Club. This would require a one-time donation of $91, the money so raised to be applied toward the Association's Centennial in 1991. After a brief discussion, the matter was tabled until the next month's Board meeting.

President Stout appointed Stephen Huston to review the existing Constitution and By-Laws for any needed changes.

10-30-85

Having recently suffered a disabling stroke, President Stout was unable to attend this meeting. Vice-President Cieniewicz served in his place.

NOTE: President Stout remained unable to attend the Society's meetings, and Mr. Cieniewicz was required to fill in for the remainder of the year.

Stephen Huston presented a very detailed report of his recommendations for changes to the PCNS Constitution and By-Laws. It was revealed that a number of the current practices of the Society were inconsistent with the provisions of these documents.

Vice-President Cieniewicz appointed a Constitution Committee which consisted of Stephen Huston, Paul Holtzman and David Lange. The Committee was to draft a revision of the Constitution and By-Laws.

Mr. Holtzman had been among the several PCNS members in attendance at the First Strike ceremonies for the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island commemorative coins. This event took place at the SFAO on 18 October 1985, and Dr. Holtzman presented the Society with two of the press kits distributed at the ceremony.

11-27-85

After reviewing the proposed new draft of the PCNS Constitution and By-Laws, the Board voted that a final draft be prepared and submitted to a vote of the general membership at the December meeting.

O. L. Wallis updated the members on the health of President Stout.

The featured speaker was numismatic literature dealer Calvin O. Wilson of Fremont, California. His presentation was followed by a lively question and answer period.

12-18-85

The revised Constitution and By-Laws were approved by the membership. Among the changes was the increase in annual dues from $5 to $7.50.

NOTE: As conceived, The Journal was expected to be self-supported through advertising. In fact, there appeared very few advertisements, and the publication proved to be a steady drain on the Society's Treasury. Raising the dues to $7.50 was thought sufficient to remedy this situation. However, as The Journal expanded and costs rose, the Society's checking account continued to dwindle. The Treasury was not again safe until 1989, when annual dues were raised to a more realistic figure of $15.

Although attendance at meetings had risen only slightly from its low point around 1979-80, the activities of the Society had expanded considerably during the years 1984-85. The creation of The Journal was the most obvious manifestation of this growth, but other signs included the increasing interest taken by members in the national numismatic scene.

1-18-86

This was a special meeting of the officers and Board held at the home of President Cieniewicz in Redwood City.

An Auction Committee consisting of David Lange, Rick Webster and Larry Reppeteau was appointed to look into the possibility of holding a formal auction on one of the meeting nights.

It was agreed that the submission of papers on a year-round basis would ease the job of the Papers Committee and would provide a smoother publication schedule for The Journal's editor. This plan would become effective the following year.

Journal Editor Stephen Huston expressed his desire to step down from that position. David Lange agreed to replace him as editor and requested that a volunteer assume editorship of the PCNS Bulletin.

1-29-86

It was reported that the NCNA had offered $100 to any member club placing a public exhibit during National Coin Week, 20-26 April 1986. Curator Thrall offered to look into the possibility of placing an exhibit of 1915-S coins from the Society's collection.

The program this evening featured a videotape produced for the U. S. Mint documenting the First Strike ceremonies for the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island commemorative coins. The segments shot at the SFAO featured several PCNS members.

2-26-86

CSNA President O. L. Wallis stated that a host club was needed for the Spring 1987 Convention and asked whether the PCNS would fill this role. President Cieniewicz said that the determining factor would be whether or not a General Chairman could be found. Adequate manpower for the convention would also be a concern. The matter was deferred until the following month's Board meeting. In the meantime, opinions would be solicited from the membership.

3-26-86

A motion was made and seconded that the PCNS host the Spring 1987 Convention of the CSNA. The motion was overwhelmingly defeated.

The Board voted to hold an auction at a special meeting scheduled for Sunday, 26 October 1986. The terms of consignment and sale submitted by the Auction Committee were approved.

Some of the highlights from these rules included:

a) All consignors must be members of the PCNS.
b) Reasonable reserves are acceptable.
c) All consignments are to be of numismatic items only.
d) A consignor's fee of 5% will be charged by the PCNS.
e) Bidders must be PCNS members or their invited guests.
f) Catalogues would be sent to all members in Sept. 1986.
g) Lots would be available for viewing at the office of Stephen Huston by appointment and again at the Telephone Museum immediately prior to the sale.

4-30-86

Despite having previosuly voted down a motion to host the Spring 1987 CSNA Convention, the Board agreed to endorse President Cieniewicz's commitment to the plan.

NOTE: While the PCNS was nominally the host of this event, much of the manpower was recruited from other clubs. Still, the planning and production of convention materials was done largely in-house.

5-28-86

A membership application had recently been received from a minor. As the existing Constitution precluded membership by anyone under 18 years of age, this application was rejected and the dues payment returned.

NOTE: This episode prompted considerable discussion, and the question of whether to admit minors would surface several times during the next three years. It was finally resolved in 1989 by an amendment to the Constitution making membership available to sincere and responsible applicants regardless of age.

The matter of access to the former PCNS Library was again raised by President Cieniewicz. Also of concern was the question of ownership, should the Museum ever close. David Lange agreed to investigate these concerns and report back.

President Cieniewicz reported that most of the committee assignments for the CSNA Convention had been made and that the convention's medal design was progressing well.

6-28-86

The Annual Banquet was held at the New San Remo Restaurant.

The winners in the 1986 Literary Awards were announced:

1st - William Henry "The Ionian Revolt and Its Coinage"
2nd - (not in the minutes)
3rd - (not in the minutes)

A Community Service Award of $100 was presented to Treasurer Thrall by David Lange on behalf of Pacific Gas & Electric Company in recognition of Mr. Lange's volunteer work for the Society.

Journal Editor Lange presented a plaque to former Editor Stephen Huston on behalf of the Society in appreciation of his service.

7-30-86

Literary Contest Committee member Rick Webster had drafted a new set of rules, but still further changes were proposed.

Journal Editor David Lange asked to be relieved of his responsibility as Editor of the PCNS Bulletin. Paul Holtzman volunteered to take over its editorship with the October 1986 issue.

8-27-86

The latest revisions to the Literary Contest rules were approved. These were to be published in the next issue of The Journal.

9-24-86

This meeting was devoted to the viewing of lots for October's auction.

Auctioneer Stephen Huston expressed concern at his possible liability for any disputes arising from the sale. President Cieniewicz had directed in advance of the meeting that a letter be drafted relieving Mr. Huston of all liability, financial or legal. This was to be carried solely by the Society within the limits imposed by the published Terms of Consignment and Terms of Sale.

10-26-86

This meeting was held on a Sunday afternoon in place of the regular Wednesday night meeting. As this was the occasion of the Society's auction, no other business was conducted. There were about 25 persons present, including invited guests.

With Stephen Huston serving as auctioneer, approximately $3100 was realized in the sale of coins, medals and paper.

The Auction Committee was commended on its job in preparing and printing the catalogue and in handling the many details required for such an activity.

11-19-86

The consensus of opinion was that the Society's auction had been a success. However, there was no immediate interest in making it an annual event.

1-31-87

This was a special meeting of the officers and Board members called by President Cieniewicz at his home in Redwood City.

The President voiced concern over the limited number of articles on hand for The Journal. It was suggested that both members and non-members be solicited for more material. Another source recommended was the file of old PCNS Bulletins, many of which included short articles.

2-25-87

President Cieniewicz appointed Herb Miles and O. L. Wallis to spearhead the plans for the Society's 75th Anniversary celebrations in 1990.

3-25-87

Journal Editor David Lange reported that 15 persons had responded to the Society's press release offering a free copy of The Journal.

4-29-87

Last minute plans and announcements were made for the CSNA Convention hosted by the PCNS.

Anniversary Committee members O. L. Wallis and Herb Miles presented their suggestions for the Society's 75th Anniversary in 1990. A copy of this listing was distributed to the officers and Board members.

Suggestions included the preparation of a written history of the Society and an inventory of its assorted properties. The issuance of a commemorative medal and a souvenir card was also proposed. Displays of numismatic items and a numismatic essay competition for local schools were suggested. Press releases were planned to publicize these activities.

NOTE: Although some of these proposals never developed, the ones of most interest to the membership were. These included the striking of silver and bronze medals and the preparation of a history and inventory for the Society. As of this writing (April 1990), the issuance of a souvenir card is still in discussion.

5-27-87

Don Thrall announced that the Telephone Museum was scheduled to relocate during the first quarter of 1988. A discussion of whether to relocate Society meetings to the new Museum or to seek another site failed to reach any conclusions.

Treasurer Thrall reported that the Society has received requests for The Journal from persons in Australia, Israel and West Germany.

NOTE: While the membership of the PCNS had remained at about the same numerical level, the new applicants were frequently from outside the San Francisco Bay Area. This was due almost entirely to the growing effectiveness of The Journal in advertising the Society. It reflects a trend that has continued to the present.

6-27-87

The Annual Banquet was again held at the New San Remo Restaurant with 21 persons in attendance.

Secretary Strazzarino was presented a silver PCNS medal with the engraving "For Distinguished Service/ Frank J. Strazzarino/ 1987". He was the only member within memory who had served in each of the major offices and had been on most of the various committees.

7-29-87

The Nebraska Numismatic Association had sent the PCNS a copy of its Journal and was requesting a continuing exchange with the Society. This was agreed upon by the Board.

David Lange circulated a petition sponsored by the editors of Coin World requesting a change in the designs of the current United States coins.

Mr. Lange also announced his intention to resign as Editor of The Journal following the October 1987 issue or as soon thereafter as a successor could be found. Publications Chairman Holtzman asked that anyone interested in taking over this position contact him.

8-26-87

The Board passed a motion permitting minors who had demonstrated a serious interest in the activities of the Society to receive its publications for a $5 postage fee. This had been sought by Stephen Huston on behalf of Matthew Rockman, a young numismatist and a frequent guest at the Society's meetings.

9-30-87

Discussion centered around tentative plans for the Society's 75th Anniversary. Among the projects discussed were a history of the PCNS, a commemorative medal, a souvenir card and a special publication.

11-18-87

Publications Chairman Holtzman announced that David and Becky Cieniewicz had agreed to become Co-Editors of The Journal. $100 was allocated for publicizing this and other news of The Journal.

12-30-87

Retiring President David Cieniewicz was presented with a silver Past-President's Medal by incoming President David Lange.

NOTE: After bottoming out around 1980, attendance at the meetings rose gradually throughout the decade. By 1987, a typical meeting would draw 15-20 members and 1-3 guests.

1-27-88

President Lange initiated a discussion of the Society's 75th Anniversary. The Anniversary Committee reported its proposed activities and souvenirs.

Curator Thrall reported that he could possibly secure the octagonal collar used in 1975 for use again in 1990.

The program this evening featured members displaying and describing their favorite numismatic books. Many popular works were on view, as well as the rare and the obscure.

3-30-88

Stephen Huston agreed to prepare a letter of recommendation on behalf of the Society's young numismatist and regular visitor,

Matthew Rockman. This would be sent to the ANA as an entry in its Young Numismatist Scholarship Program.

Curator Thrall reported that he was compiling a list of the Society's 1915 postcard collection. He also spoke of his efforts to secure the octagonal collar owned by sculptor and minter Barbara Hyde.

NOTE: This collar had been created for the CSNA's 1973 medal commemorating the rededication of the Old S.F. Mint as a museum. This medal and the 1975 and 1982 medals of the PCNS were coined by Masterpieces Unlimited, a partnership of Richard and Barbara Hyde. By 1988, Richard had passed away, and Barbara was confined to a nursing home in poor health.

Mr. Thrall also displayed the Society's collection of 1915 "So-Called Dollars" and photographs of its early banquets.

4-27-88

Mr. Thrall displayed further items from the Society's archives. These included the early minutes books and a letter from famed sculptor Victor D. Brenner. The latter has been interpreted by some as suggesting that Mr. Brenner engraved the Society's seal.

It was announced that Matthew Rockman's article on British coinage, published in The Journal, had been submitted for the Todd Gee Annual Literary Award for Numismatic Writing. This competition had been established by the parents of Todd Gee, a young Canadian numismatist who died in 1985.

President Lange complimented Editors David and Becky Cieniewicz on their first issue of The Journal.

O. L. Wallis submitted an outline for the proposed 75th Anniversary publication.

Vice-President Herb Miles reported that the San Francisco Unified School District was in favor of the Society's proposal to sponsor an essay competition in conjunction with its 75th Anniversary.

NOTE: This was one of several worthy projects proposed for 1990 that ultimately would not bear fruit.

5-25-88

Editor David Cieniewicz spoke of the shortage of articles on hand for The Journal. This was followed by a discussion of ways to encourage more submissions.

It was reported that PCNS Past-President Osmyn Stout had received Krause Publications' Numismatic Ambassador Award.

Curator Thrall exhibited more early banquet photographs from the Society's archives.

Past-Presidents Larry and Lori Reppeteau donated two copies of a formal photograph taken at the 1965 50th Anniversary Banquet.

6-25-88

The Annual Banquet was held at the New San Remo Restaurant with 31 persons present.

7-27-88

It was announced that Matthew Rockman had received the Todd Gee Annual Literary Award for Numismatic Writing.

President Lange distributed assignment sheets for the various 75th Anniversary projects. Several members volunteered or were gently persuaded to serve in some capacity.

8-31-88

It was voted to sponsor Matthew Rockman as a Young Numismatist in the CSNA.

President Lange spoke further on the 75th Anniversary Project and set a target date of 1 January 1990 for the submission of all data.

10-28-88

David Cieniewicz said that he would investigate the possibility of having a sculpted medal for the Society's 75th Anniversary. He planned to correspond with the several medalists who advertised in Coin World.

The Society agreed to adopt as the obverse of its 1990 medal the general design of the Panama Pacific International Exposition $50 gold coin. Appropriate substitutions in the legends would be made.

11-30-88

Mr. Cieniewicz further reported on his medal study by describing the economic feasibility of producing an octagonal medal. He based his statements on the assumption that the octagonal collar could be secured. He further advocated that the existing die of the Society's logo be used, if possible.

12-28-88

The death of Barbara Hyde was announced. Don Thrall said that he had hopes of obtaining the octagonal collar from her estate. This would be essential in striking an octagonal medal for 1990.

2-22-89

President Lange reported that he had sent letters to all of the long-time members seeking photographs, souvenirs and anecdotes of PCNS history. These were to be used in the anniversary celebrations.

4-26-89

The President distributed copies of a scale drawing he had prepared of the Society's existing logo die. These would be sent to private minters from whom the PCNS was seeking bids for its 1990 medal.

Don Thrall announced that the meetings would soon be relocated to a new Telephone Museum, as the existing structure had been sold by Pacific Bell. The date of the move would announced later.

Journal Editor Cieniewicz reported the urgent need for both long and short articles. He further revealed that The Journal had been entered in the ANA's Club Publication Competition.

6-24-89

The Annual Banquet was held at the New San Remo Restaurant with 33 persons in attendance.

The 1989 Literary Awards were presented.

7-25-89

This and subsequent meetings were held at the new Telephone Museum, 1515 19th Avenue.

8-30-89

Much discussion was given over to the Society's dwindling checking account. The ongoing cost of publishing and mailing the PCNS Bulletin and The Journal was not being covered by existing revenues. Additional sources of income were suggested and discussed. It was agreed that further study would be needed in the coming months.

The recurring debate over whether to admit members under 18 years of age was revived with the receipt of a letter from a 14-year old boy in Culver City, California, inquiring about membership in the Society.

As had been recent practice in such cases, Secretary Strazzarino was directed to write a letter to the boy expressing the Society's regrets that he could not be admitted. Instead, he would have the option of taking a subscription to The Journal at the cost of $5 per year.

President Lange announced that The Journal had been named by the ANA as Outstanding Regional Numismatic Publication for 1988-89. A framed certificate attesting to this award had been accepted by him on behalf of the Society at the recent ANA convention at Pittsburgh. This he then presented to Editor Cieniewicz.

9-27-89

The Board moved to give Stephen Huston 28 sets of the first 20 issues of The Journal in exchange for his services in preparing and distributing to all members an index to the same.

Medal Chairman Cieniewicz reported on the difficulty and prohibitive cost of producing an octagonal medal. He said that he would instead investigate the cost of producing a round medal.

NOTE: Repeated attempts to secure the octagonal collar used in 1975 and 1982 had failed, as the heirs of Barbara Hyde expressed no interest in helping to locate it.

Further discussion ensued with regard to the Society's budgetary problems. A proposal to increase dues was deferred pending a review of the Constitution and By-Laws for the correct procedure.

10-25-89

Curator Thrall revealed that he had in his possession numerous duplicate items from the Society's collection of PPIE material. He suggested that these be sold and the returns used in acquiring additions to the collection or to offset expenses for the 75th Anniversary celebrations.

After much trading of figures, the Board voted to raise the annual dues from $7.50 to $15, effective 1 January 1990.

11-29-89

The members voted to amend the Constitution by eliminating all reference to a minimum age requirement for membership.

NOTE: This finally settled the long-standing debate over how to accomodate juniors. The subject was a controversial one, and passage of the amendment was not unanimous.

12-27-89

Medal Chairman Cieniewicz reported the quotations given him by the two medalists solicited and displayed examples of their work.

The Board directed Mr. Cieniewicz to place an order for obverse and reverse dies with Masterpiece Medallions of Claremont, California.

NOTE: This mint was operated by G. Lee Kuntz. The other coiner solicited was sculptor Alex Shagin, also of Southern California.

A motion carried to have 100 silver medals and 200 antiqued bronze medals struck with reeded edges. These would be offered at $20 for a set of one each until 23 March 1990. After that time, remaining medals would be sold at $20 for the silver alone and $3 for the bronze.

A motion to amend the Constitution by providing for a new category of membership was passed by the members present. This amendment created the title of Sponsor, to be given to those members donating a specified amount of money above and in addition to their regular dues. The exact amount was to be determined by the Board. After much trading of figures, the sum of $50 was set for 1990.